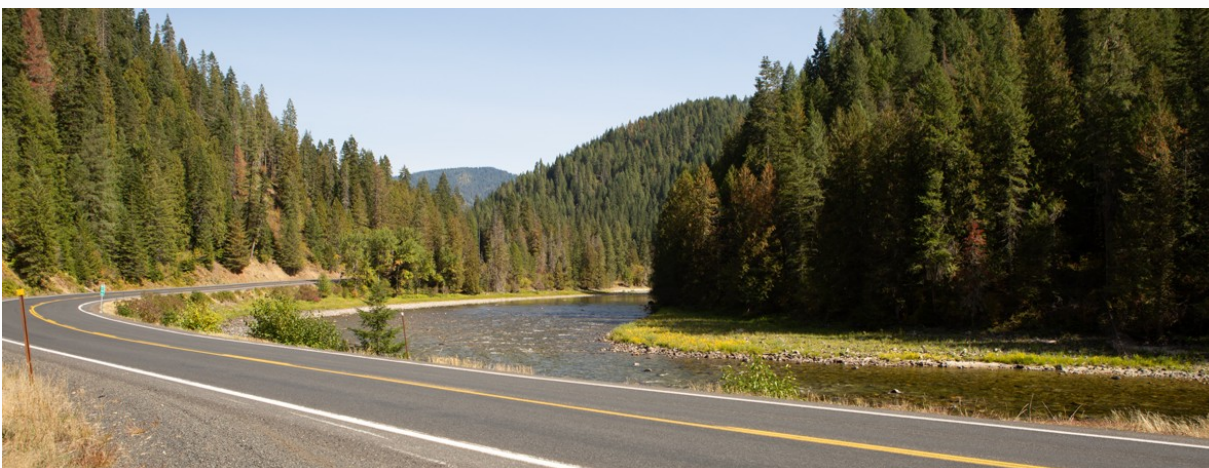


# Lewis & Clark Trail News

## *Bringing the Trail to Life*

April 19, 2025



*Richard Hunt*  
*Executive Director*  
*Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance*

### Quick Links

[Oregon Cultural Trust Grant](#)

[Gilchrist Foundation Grant](#)

[Kansas History Grant](#)

[Indiana History Grant](#)

[Further Foundation \(NE\)](#)

[Missouri Humanities Grant](#)

[DAR Grant \(SD\)](#)

[Stimson Miller Foundation](#)

## A Digital Boost for the Lewis and Clark Story

### Sponsored



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<https://www.lewisandclark.travel>

### [Lewis and Clark Trail Alliance Annual Gathering](#)

Explore events happening along The Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail. Retrace the Expedition and Explore New People, Places, and Stories. Explore The Trail. L&C Trail Experience. Discover New Stories.

### [Walks And Hikes](#)

We Have Fairview Bridge And Cartwright Tunnel Trail & More.

### [RV And Camping](#)

Our Listings Include Gorge Base Camp RV Park And More.

### [Events](#)

Stay In The Loop On Things Happening At Sites Along The Trail

### [About Us](#)

Learn About the LCTE Initiative by the National Park Service

### [Trip Inspirations](#)

Get Inspired & Plan Your Next Adventure Today

If you've ever noticed those small "Sponsored" links at the top of your Google search results, you're not alone. What you may not realize is that the Lewis and Clark Trail Alliance benefits directly from this digital real estate—thanks to the generosity of Google's Ads Grant program.

Each month, LCTA receives \$10,000 in free

[Volunteer Vacations](#)

[National Park Week](#)

[USFS Retiree Reunion](#)

[Pomeroy Foundation Grants](#)

[LCTE Event Calendar](#)

[Apply for LCTA](#)  
[Trail Stewardship Grants](#)

[LCTA Photo Contest](#)

Join LCTA

advertising through this grant. These ads allow us to reach thousands of people with invitations to explore partner Interpretive Centers, attend events along the Trail, and discover one-of-a-kind trip inspirations.

The impact is real. Our outreach through The Lewis and Clark Trail Experience and Discover Lewis & Clark websites now draws over 500,000 annual visitors. That's half a million people engaging with the story, landscapes, and lessons of the Lewis and Clark Expedition—many for the very first time.

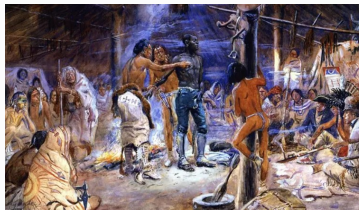
We are deeply grateful to Google for this powerful tool. Their contribution helps us amplify our mission, connect people to history, and ensure that the Trail continues to educate, inspire, and welcome new explorers—every single day.



Watch  
[Courage Undaunted](#)

Before embarking on the legendary journey into the uncharted West, Meriwether Lewis underwent extensive training to prepare for the challenges ahead.

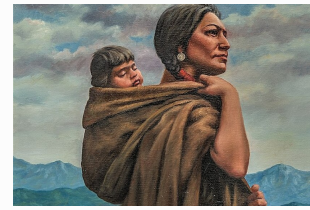
Explore how President Thomas Jefferson tasked Lewis with leading the Corps of Discovery—and how his rigorous studies in natural sciences, medicine, and navigation equipped him for the expedition's many trials.



Watch  
[York on the Expedition](#)

Discover the powerful story of York, the only African American member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, in this compelling video produced by the [Lewis and Clark State Historic Site](#) at Camp Dubois, Illinois.

As William Clark's enslaved servant, York played a vital role in the success of the Corps of Discovery—hunting, building relationships with Native nations, and contributing to the expedition in countless ways. Learn how York's



Watch  
[Goodbye to Sakakawea](#)

In this moving presentation from the archival Tent of Many Voices, scholar and Mandan-Hidatsa storyteller Amy Mossett tells of the parting of Lewis and Clark as they say goodbye to Sakakawea, Charbonneau, and baby Pomp, not knowing if they would ever meet again.

Through cultural insight and historical research, Mossett offers a powerful reflection of August 17, 1806.

More great content from our grant awarded to the [Shenandoah Center for Immersive Learning](#)

journey along the Trail highlights both the promise and the paradox of early American history.



Join via  
Zoom

May 18, 2025  
3 PM MDT

## How many Calories?

What were the energy demands to pole a barge up the Missouri River?

Join us for a free [on-line lecture](#) presented by Andrew Creer who will use current data to hypothesize energy requirements of the Corps of Discovery and provide comparisons to modern data highlighting the limits of sustained physical activity.

Andrew Creer is a professor specializing in exercise science and is currently serving as the department chair for Exercise Science & Outdoor Recreation at Utah Valley University.

## LCTA Grant Awards in Action

The Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance's 2025 Stewardship Endowment Grants help 15 organizations focus on speakers, events, displays, brochures, and other creative projects that tell the expedition's story. Here is a look at two of the grants:

### Historical Sign Replacements

The most viewed educational offerings along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail are outdoor wayside displays that provide information about what the explorers did in a local area and, in many instances, additional information about indigenous populations and local ecology.

Most of the signage was erected during the 2003-06 Bicentennial Celebration of the expedition. Over the last two decades, some displays have deteriorated due to weather or unfortunately damaged due to vandalism.

The upkeep and replacement of these important educational exhibits has been a priority of the Lewis and Clark Trail Alliance over the years. Of the 15 grants funded in 2025, the Trail Stewardship Grant Program provided funding to two organizations to replace signage.





Existing sign that will be replaced through LCTA Grant Funding

## Elk Point South Dakota

The city of Elk Point, S.D., received \$1,000 to replace deteriorated signage at the [interpretive site](#) where the Expedition camped in the days after the death and burial of Sgt. Charles Floyd.

The Corps had an important decision to make in [selecting a new sergeant](#). On August 26, 1804, the men elected Patrick Gass as Sgt. Floyd's replacement.

## Mouth of the Platte

In a 40-mile stretch of the Missouri River in the area of Omaha, Neb., and Council Bluffs, Iowa, an assessment of 15 exhibits found that 40 informational panels needed replacement.

The Mouth of the Platte Chapter of the Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance applied for and received a \$10,000 grant to work with other local groups to replace panels in displays in 15 parks and public spaces.

Heritage Park, Elk Point, South Dakota



## Online Auction

## Lewis and Clark Trail Mixer

Check out the 20th Anniversary of the Lewis & Clark Foundation's\* annual Trail Mixer online auction. See the amazing selections from the The Art Gallery, Eat, Drink and be Merry, Gift Baskets, Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance Library, Outdoor Adventures, Vroom Vroom, Vintage Collectables, Autographed Memorabilia, Amazing Vacations, No Place Like Home and more.

Proceeds from the auction will benefit the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center.

*\*The Lewis and Clark Foundation is the Friends organization for the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and is a separate entity from the Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance.*

## Share the Adventure!

### **Lewis & Clark Trail News**

Bringing the Trail to Life

April 5, 2025

[Sign Up Link](#)

Every week, twenty new viewers subscribe to  
The *Lewis and Clark Trail News*

Help us expand the community by sharing the newsletter with your network. Simply provide this sign-up link to friends, family, and fellow Trail enthusiasts.

## Drinking on the Job!

In June 1804, the Corps of Discovery



camped at what we now call Kaw Point, where the Kansas and Missouri Rivers meet. It was there that a midnight sip of whiskey turned into a full-blown court martial resulting in serious disciplinary action on the expedition.



We'll gather in Kansas City for our 2025 Annual Gathering to walk in their footsteps, share stories, enjoy a Chautauqua-style afternoon of music and entertainment. We may or may not break into the whiskey, but we will definitely visit the scene of the crime.

Join us in Kansas City

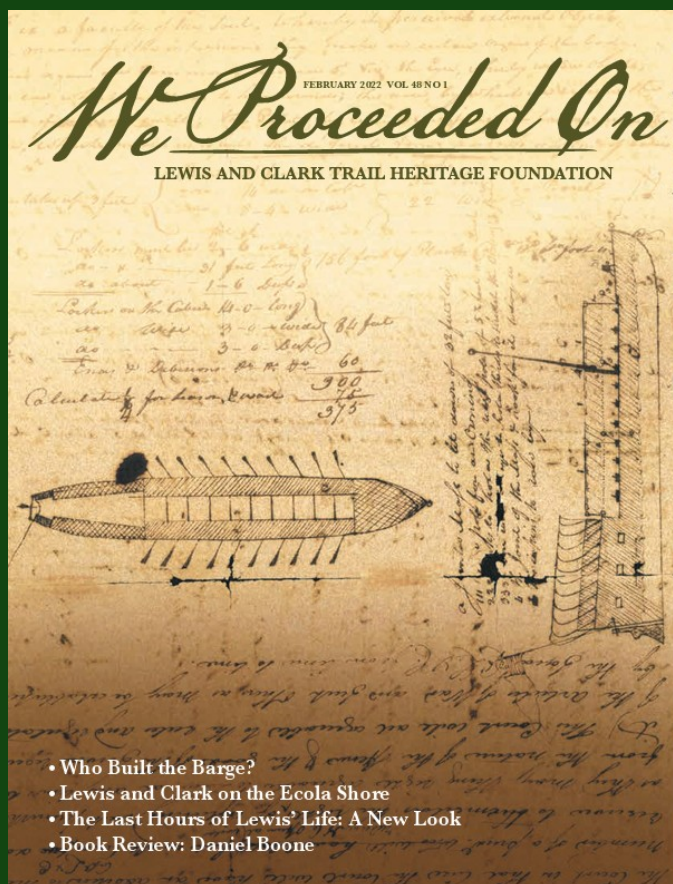
[2025 LCTA](#)  
[Annual Gathering](#)

Mark your calendars for this memorable and historic Annual Gathering. Rumor has it a keelboat might make an appearance!

September 14 - 17, 2025

Register

Browse this complimentary previous edition of [We Proceeded On](#) and experience this rich archive for yourself—you may find it's just the inspiration you need to [join](#) and receive the latest issue!



# Read We Proceeded On February 2022

## *Who Built the Barge?*

*In his journal during the voyage, Lewis himself, and others who saw it, called his big boat a “barge.” The drawings of this boat made by Captain William Clark and other references in the journals also establish its type clearly.*

*For many years, the fact that Lewis went down the Ohio River with his barge and other smaller boats was not widely known. There is a well-documented tradition that one or more of the Lewis boats was built in Elizabeth, Pennsylvania, but most historians today conclude that his barge was built in Pittsburgh.*

*Until 2003, the belief was that it had been built at one of the boatyards along the banks of the Monongahela River (i.e., near Pittsburgh). The research outlined in Patricia Lowry’s August 3, 2003, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette article, “Who Built the Big Boat?” pointed to a new possibility — that the Lewis boat was built at Fort Fayette ... [\(continue reading\)](#)*



Reenactors with Amy Mossett as Sacagawea aboard the red pirogue during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. Photograph courtesy of Betty Kluesner.

*William K. Brunot*







## The Last Journey of Jean Baptiste Charbonneau

Sacramento to Danner



This trip allows you to visit two resting places of Expedition members. Alexander Hamilton Willard, buried in Elk Grove, California and Jean Baptiste Charbonneau near Danner, Oregon. The drive will take you through Auburn, California, where Jean Baptiste resided for...

**Stops:** 7

**Distance:** 554 miles

[VIEW INSPIRATION](#)



Join us for the 37th annual Lewis & Clark Festival, held at the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center in Great Falls, MT! This year's featured performer is "Supaman"!



## Annual Lewis & Clark Festival

**June 20 & 21, 2025  
Great Falls, Montana**

**LEWIS & CLARK  
FOUNDATION**

4201 Giant Springs Rd., Great Falls, MT 59405  
(406) 452-5661

[www.lewisandclarkfoundation.org](http://www.lewisandclarkfoundation.org)

Follow us on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/lewisandclarkfoundation>

Upcoming Featured Events on the [LCTE Events Calendar](#)



April 26, 2025  
Sgt Floyd Museum  
Sioux City, IA

### [Fly A Kite!](#)

Bring your kites and lawn chairs, enjoy free popcorn and a Nature Scavenger Hunt from the Sgt. Floyd Riverboat Museum.

Return your sheet to the crew for a surprise! This event is free, and no registration is required.



May 1 - 31, 2025  
Green University  
Caldwell, MT

### [Classroom in the Woods](#)

Do you want to learn primitive skills basics and learn how to work with kids? Come to Montana for a month of skills, games, and fun working with public school groups. Join Thomas J. Elpel at Green University for an immersive wilderness skills experience working with kids.



May 5, 2025  
Ashland, KY

### [Ohio River Way Challenge](#)

The 5th annual Ohio River Way Challenge—an extraordinary expedition in 30-foot voyager canoes—will go from Ashland, Kentucky, to Louisville.

The popular event raises public awareness for the beauty, history, and culture of the Ohio River.

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