



Lewis & Clark Trail News
Bringing the Trail to Life
November 1, 2025



On the Trail of Discovery

Located on the lawn of the National Quilt Museum, this bronze sculpture by George Lundeen features Meriwether Lewis, William Clark, Clark's dog Seaman, and two Native Americans—a man and a girl. A plaque explains that the Native figures represent the many Indigenous people who aided the expedition from 1803 to 1806.



The child holds a U.S. flag and a Thomas Jefferson medal, symbols given to Native peoples by the explorers. Lundeen added modern touches—Sacagawea coin earrings and Paducah marked on Clark's map—linking past and present. Notably, Lewis paid \$20 for Seaman, while Clark later paid \$5 for the land where Paducah stands.

LCTA member Tony Huhn captured this closeup image of Lewis, one of 14

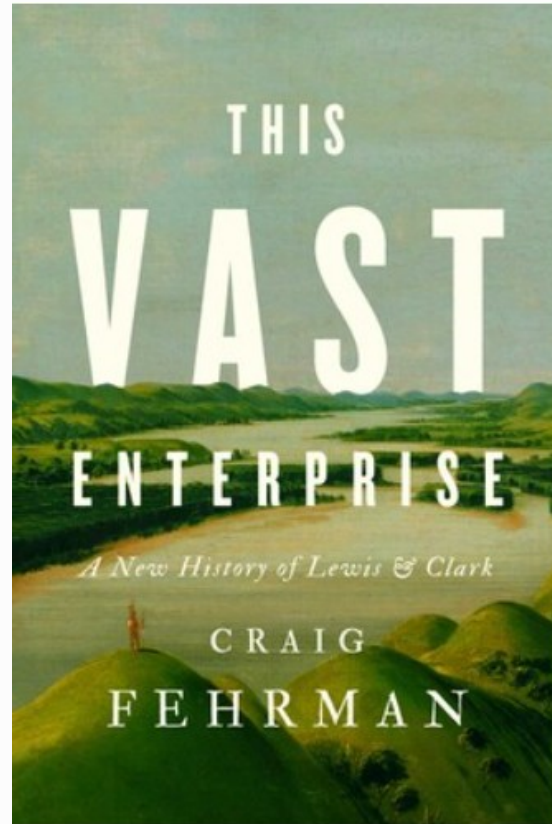
winning photos that are published in the Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance's 2026 calendar. The calendar is for sale for \$20 as a fundraiser for LCTA programs. [Order yours now.](#)

Videocast Presentation

Join the Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance for an exclusive online conversation with acclaimed historian and author Craig Fehrman. In this special event, Fehrman will introduce his groundbreaking forthcoming book, *This Vast Enterprise: A New History of Lewis and Clark* (Simon & Schuster, 2026).

Fehrman will reveal what's truly "new" about his work—not only his discovery of fresh documents but also his innovative storytelling approach, shifting perspectives chapter by chapter. He'll spotlight John Ordway, sharing new insights into his early military career (including his work on the Natchez Trace), and fresh interpretations of pivotal Corps of Discovery moments like Camp River Dubois and the portage.

Attendees will get a rare behind-the-scenes look at Fehrman's research process, including a PowerPoint of key historical documents—such as the newspaper ad that may have led Ordway to enlist. He'll discuss how he uncovered new material, shaped his narrative, and reimagined this iconic American expedition.



Sunday, November 2, 2025 • 3 p.m. MT • via [Zoom](#)

A Fresh Look for the Lewis and Clark Trail Experience

TRIP INSPIRATIONS



Columbia, Missouri to Kansas City
Blue Highways

[VIEW DETAILS](#)



City of Roses
Around Portland

[VIEW DETAILS](#)



Malta to Lewistown via C M Russell NWR
Into the Breaks

[VIEW DETAILS](#)

[VIEW ALL TRIP INSPIRATIONS](#)

LEWIS & CLARK ATTRACTIONS



Lewis and Clark Trail State Park (Washington)

Lewis & Clark Trail State Park, U.S. 12, Dayton, WA, USA

[VIEW DETAILS](#)

[Outdoor Experiences](#) [RV and Camping](#)



Monticello

1050 Monticello Loop, Charlottesville, VA, USA

[VIEW DETAILS](#)

[LC Features](#) [Guided Tours](#)



Kelley Point Park (Mouth of the Willamette)

Kelley Point Park, North Kelly Point Park Road, Portland, OR, USA

[VIEW DETAILS](#)

[LC Features](#) [Walks and Hikes](#)

[VIEW ALL LEWIS & CLARK ATTRACTIONS](#)

MUSEUMS AND INTERPRETIVE CENTERS



Ray County Museum

Ray County Museum, West Royle Street, Richmond, MO, USA

[VIEW DETAILS](#)

[Museums and Interpretive Centers](#)



The Howard Steamboat Museum

The Carriage House at Howard Steamboat Museum, East Market Street, Jeffersonville, IN, USA

[VIEW DETAILS](#)

[Museums and Interpretive Centers](#)



Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center

Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, Waverly-Williamstown Road, Williamstown, WV, USA

[VIEW DETAILS](#)

[Museums and Interpretive Centers](#) [Outdoor Experiences](#)

[VIEW ALL MUSEUMS AND INTERPRETIVE CENTERS](#)

Thanks to our web team, Kris Townsend and Ryan Abrahamsen, the [Lewis and Clark Trail Experience](#) homepage now has a fresh new look—making it easier than ever to navigate and explore the content that enhances your Trail knowledge and discovery.

[Check it Out!](#)

York Fest in Portland, Oregon

By Alisha Hamel, Oregon Chapter President,
LCTA

Hasan Davis made a special appearance at York Fest, a weeklong festival that honored York in Portland, Oregon, October 17-25. The festival was partially sponsored by the Lewis and Clark Trail Alliance and was coordinated by Oregon Black Pioneers (OBP), an organization that strives to preserve the history of Black Oregonians. With York's time in Oregon in 1805-1806 as part of the Corps of Discovery, he qualified as an important part of Oregon Black history.

As Oregon Black Pioneers explored ways to share York's story with a wider audience, they discovered several local groups already developing York-inspired programs. OBP brought these partners together to create a collaborative, multi-day celebration—York Fest—commemorating the 1805 anniversary of York's arrival in Portland and raising public awareness of his enduring legacy.

For two centuries, York's story has rarely been told, but his courage and achievements are inspiring people today. "York was an essential member of the Corps of Discovery," says Zachary Stocks, OBP Executive Director. "We're happy that people around the country and especially here in Oregon—are finally recognizing York's important contributions to our nation's history."



Artist and LCTA member Steve Ludeman (L) presents Hasan Davis (C) with a print of his watercolor painting *Goodbye*, which portrays York bidding farewell to his wife in November 1803. Also pictured, Zachary Stock, OBP (R)



York Fest events included a presentation on York by Zachary Stocks on October 17, a Rooted Futures Festival on October 18, the showing of "Big Medicine: York Outdoors" on October 22, a powerful presentation by York reenactor, Hasan Davis on October 23 and a world premiere of "York the Explorer" by Aaron Nigel Smith and Dr. Renee Mitchell on October 24 and 25.

Learn more about [York on Discover Lewis & Clark](#), our educational website.

Day by Day Radio Episodes



Painting created by Split Rock Studios, Sioux City, Iowa. Original in the collection of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation and photographed by Kristopher K. Townsend. Captain Lewis stands and his dog [Seaman](#) sits while two soldiers row the [white pirogue](#) to a [Mandan](#) village.

Have you listened to the [Day by Day Radio Episodes](#) hosted on our Discover Lewis and Clark website?

Originally aired by [Yellowstone Public Radio](#) during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial observance in 2004-2006, these 627 radio episodes parallel the expedition dates starting May 14, 1804, and ending September 25, 1806. They are narrated by Hal Hansen, scripted by Whit Hansen and Ed Jacobson, and produced by Leni Holliman.

Listen to the episode describing [November 1, 1804](#), looking for winter quarters.

At 3 o'clock P. M. we returned down the river, to look for a place where we could fix our winter quarters. At dark we had descended 9 miles, and came to a bottom covered with cotton wood, where we encamped. —[Patrick Gass](#)

[Of Interest](#)

[trailresearch.org](#)

[Christmas in Hermann](#)

[Oregon 250](#)

[Listening to America](#)

[Grants](#)

[Teagle Foundation](#)

[Idaho K-12](#)

[MT Tribal Tourism](#)

[America 250 \(ND\)](#)

[Alliance](#)

[Trip Inspirations](#)

[Event Calendar](#)

[Join LCTA](#)

[Support LCTA](#)

Play Lewis & Clark Trivia



On Nov. 2, 1804, members of the Lewis and Clark expedition began work on a fortification where they remained until April of 1805.

This trivia question requires two answers: What was the name of the fortification and in which state today is the site located in?

[Submit your answer](#)

The winner of this trivia contest will receive a copy of *Uncovering the Truth About Meriwether Lewis* by Thomas C. Danisi. The book offers an abundance of information that fills in historical gaps about mysteries and controversies surrounding the life and death of Lewis. It's an excellent read.

The answer to the last newsletter's trivia question was Natchez Trace, the trail that Lewis was on when he died in 1809.

Twenty-eight readers submitted the correct answer. When more than one person submits a correct answer, a drawing is done. The winner was Stan Spencer. He will receive a copy of *Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains: A Natural History*, written and illustrated by Paul A. Johnsgard.

Learn more: Read an article about the last journey of [Meriwether Lewis](#), written by Clay Jenkinson and published on our educational website, [Discover Lewis & Clark](#).



"One Owner, Low Mileage" Keelboat for Sale

Available at auction from the Iowa State Department of Natural Resources, this is a full-size replica of the keelboat that Lewis and Clark used to explore the western United States in 1804. Butch Bouvier "Mr. Keelboat" Built this boat in 2004. He had named it "Best Friend" but later changed it to "Discovery II".



Built a little longer and a little wider than the original keelboat for stability on the water. It is 57 feet long and 12 feet wide. It weighs 9 tons and drafts 14 inches of water. Built entirely of pressure treated and western cedar. All fittings are zinc coated or stainless. There was a hole cut in the captain's quarters for an outboard motor.

The boat was used for programming at Lewis and Clark State Park in Onawa, Iowa, for most of its life. The boat has not been in the water since 2019. It is in pretty rough shape and will need a lot of work to restore. The masts are broken along with many other things.



This boat comes as is. The trailer it is on will not go with the boat. This sale is for the BOAT ONLY. For more information on the trailer please contact Nathan at 712-423-2829 or Lewis_and_Clark@dnr.iowa.gov.

Auction closes Nov 07, 2025 05:00 PM CT

[Auction Site](#)



[It Wasn't Just Lewis and Clark](#)

Our final episode created by Lee Graff and students from Shenandoah University wraps up the 15-part series. Enjoy this and maybe go back and [catch up](#) on all previous episodes.



LCTA Oregon Chapter Holiday Dinner

Oregon Chapter members and friends will gather Saturday, December 6, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Netul Room at Fort Clatsop for the annual holiday dinner meeting.

Our main speaker will be Zachary Stocks, Executive Director of the Oregon Black Pioneers and seasonal ranger at Lewis and Clark National Historic Park (Fort Clatsop). Zachary's presentation, "York, The Man", will tell the comprehensive story of York both before and after the Expedition. In addition, Lewis and Clark National Historical Park Superintendent Jon Burpee will

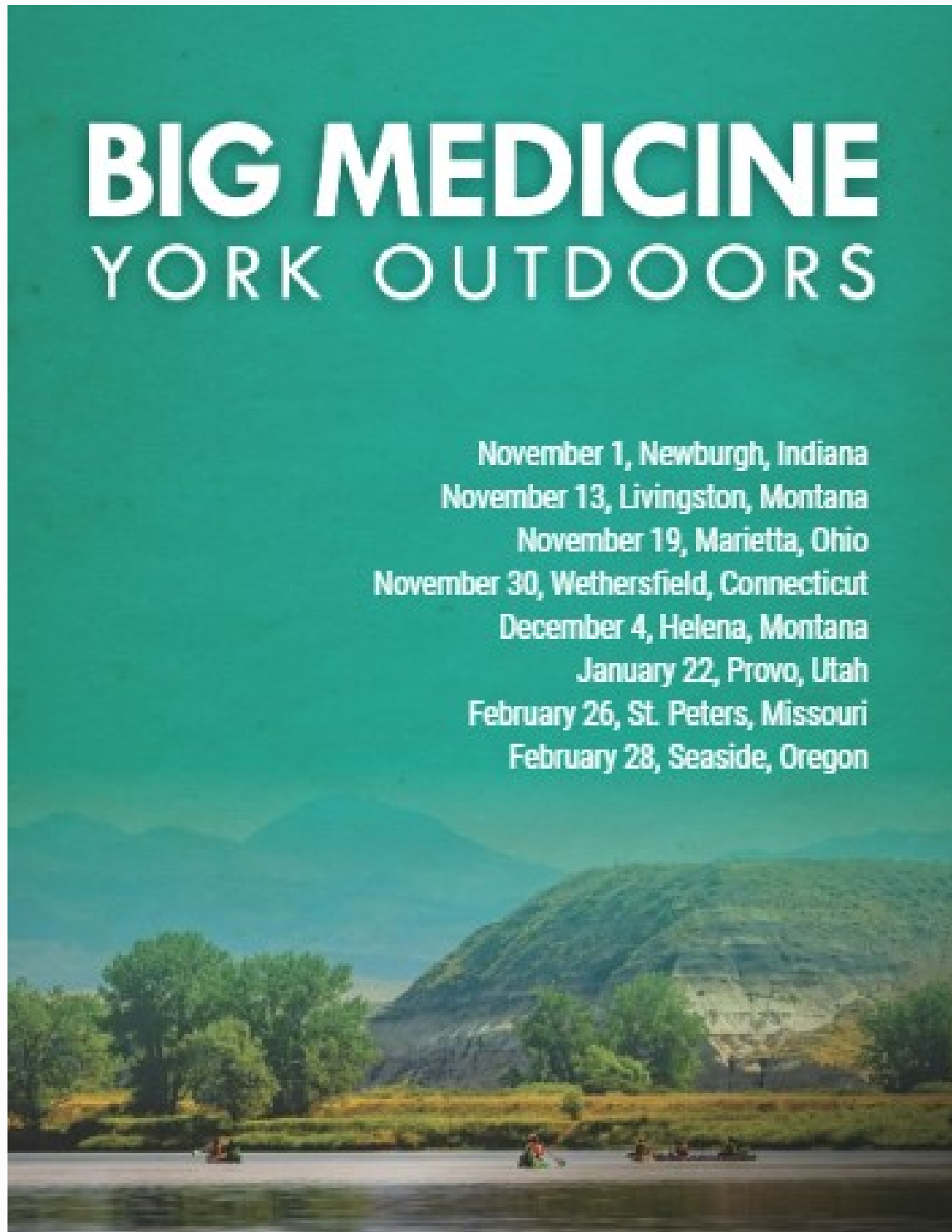
Speak about developments at the park.

The dinner will be catered by Fulio's Restaurant in Astoria and will include wild caught salmon, elk meat and other tastes the Corps of Discovery would have preferred under better circumstances than Christmas in 1805.

Guests are welcome to attend.

Cost is \$20 payable at the door by cash, or a check made out to "Oregon Chapter, Lewis and Clark Trail Alliance."

RSVP by email: SlowPokeTours@gmail.com



Words Worth Reviving:

The *Journals of Lewis and Clark* contain a language that feels raw, immediate, and strangely poetic. The spelling is eccentric, the phrasing inventive, and the tone often somewhere between military dispatch and wonder-filled diary.



Travois

a sled pulled by dogs or horses, borrowed from the French-Canadian *travail*.

Read about the [Travois Road](#) in Washington State

Share the Adventure!

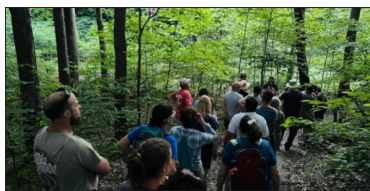


Help us expand the community by sharing the newsletter with your network. Simply provide this [sign-up link](#) to friends, family, and fellow Trail enthusiasts.

See all the events on the [LCTE Events Calendar](#)



[Horrible Day](#)
Knappton Cove, WA
November 7



[Take a Hike Day](#)
Henderson, KY
November 16



[Ohio Cemeteries 101](#)
Marietta, OH
December 5

Where on the Trail?



© 2000 Airphoto—[Jim Wark](#)

Our newest fun feature invites you to guess the location along the Trail.

The lewis-clark.org Airphoto Gallery provides the answer.

[Answer](#)

The Last Word

Lights, camera, action — the Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance is making a movie!

We're thrilled to announce the development of *Big Medicine: Voices*, a feature-length documentary that follows father and son Hasan and Malcolm Davis as they retrace the footsteps of York — the only Black member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition - from Kentucky to Oregon. Their journey spans the landscapes of the Lewis and Clark Trail, where they meet a chorus of storytellers, uncover forgotten truths, and reveal the deep connections between two journeys that are separated by more than 220 years yet united by courage, resilience, and exploration.

Blending breathtaking cinematography, spoken-word performance, and powerful oral histories, *Big Medicine: Voices* brings the past to life while inspiring a new generation to Discover the Trail and learn from its history. Now in pre-production, filming is planned for late summer 2026. Funding will come from grants, individual contributions, and organizational sponsorships, with the goal of sharing the finished film through festivals, public television, and major streaming platforms.

Stay tuned for updates as this powerful story comes to life.
To learn more—or to support the production—please contact
director@lewisandclark.org.

Richard Hunt

The Travelers

HASAN DAVIS



MALCOLM DAVIS



While York stands at the center, Hasan and Malcolm drive the story — uncovering forgotten voices and reclaiming oral histories along the Lewis and Clark Trail. Big Medicine Voices is a journey of healing, remembrance, and the enduring power of hope passed through generations.

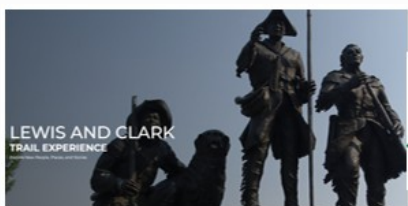
TEAM
KENTUCKY

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM

New
Kentucky
Home



Our Network of Online Resources



Lewis & Clark
TRAIL ALLIANCE



TRAVEL

ALLIANCE

EDUCATION



lewisandclark.org



Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation | PO Box 3434 | Great Falls, MT 59403 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Our Privacy Policy](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!