

Lewis & Clark Trail News

Bringing the Trail to Life

December 28, 2024



Richard Hunt

The Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance --- A Year of Transformation and Renewal

As 2024 draws to a close, we reflect on a year marked by bold, transformational change for the Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance. Guided by our Board of Directors' strategic plan, we embraced opportunities to elevate our organization and Bring the Trail to life for current and future generations.

One of the most significant milestones this year was our name change to the Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance. This shift is more than a rebranding—it's a recommitment to our historic mission, combined with an energized focus on reaching new members and partners. The word "Alliance" underscores our collaborative spirit, as we work hand-in-hand with communities, organizations, and individuals to invigorate the legacy of Lewis and Clark.

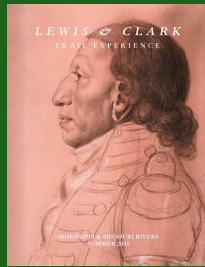
In 2024, we also embraced a forward-thinking approach to leverage our resources and expand our reach:

- Discovering Lewis and Clark and the Lewis and Clark Trail Experience remain cornerstone platforms, offering immersive storytelling and rich educational content.
- New tools and technologies like YouTube videos, digital travel magazines, a trail-wide events calendar, and Google Ads have helped us connect with diverse audiences in new ways.
- The useful mobile app brings the Trail directly to the palm of your hand, enhancing accessibility and engagement for travelers and enthusiasts alike.

Through these efforts, we're not just telling the story of Lewis and Clark—we're ensuring that the Trail remains relevant, vibrant, and accessible for all.

Thank you to our members, partners, and





supporters who have been part of this journey. Together, we are creating a dynamic and inclusive community dedicated to preserving the past while embracing the future. We look forward to continuing this exciting momentum into 2025 and beyond!

Join the
Alliance

Support the
Alliance



New YouTube Content



Watch [Discover Historic Locust Grove](#)

Step back in time and explore the captivating history of Locust Grove, a beautifully preserved historic site in Louisville, Kentucky. Nestled amidst lush landscapes, Locust Grove offers a glimpse into the lives of early pioneers and Kentucky's rich heritage. From the iconic Georgian mansion to the tranquil grounds, this hidden gem is a must-visit for history buffs and nature lovers alike. Join us for a guided tour, where



Watch [More Questions than Answers](#)

Born on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in North Dakota, Gerard Baker, a proud member of the Three Affiliated Tribes, infused his cultural heritage and personal journey into every role he served. From championing Native American interpreters at Little Bighorn to fostering understanding at Mount Rushmore, his leadership transformed the National Park Service's approach to history and diverse storytelling. In this rare



Watch [Jim Holmberg on York](#)

Discover the remarkable story of York, the first African American to cross the North American continent with the Corps of Discovery. A heroic-size bronze statue of York, created by renowned sculptor Ed Hamilton, stands proudly on the Louisville Belvedere, honoring his legacy. Commissioned by the city of Louisville and

you'll uncover stories of the past, admire stunning architecture, and experience a serene atmosphere that transports you to a bygone era. Whether you're a local or a visitor, Locust Grove is an unforgettable journey through time!

archival footage, Baker shares his vision inside the "Tent of Many Voices," revealing how he shaped the narrative of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial to honor multiple perspectives and engage broader audiences.

championed by the Falls of the Ohio Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Committee, the statue was unveiled on October 14, 2003, commemorating the 200th anniversary of Lewis and Clark’s meeting in Louisville.

2024 Trail Stewardship Grant Awards



Lewis and Clark Trail Stewardship Endowment	
Organization Name	Project Name
Lewis & Clark Foundation	Hasan Davis Presentation
City Of Elk Point	Lewis and Clark Sign Renovation
J. Greg Smith Inc.	2025 LCNHT Auto Tour Brochures
Sioux City Lewis & Clark Inter	2025 Summer Series – Native/Cultural
Friends of Lewis & Clark Bicentennial	LCNHT Great Plains Brochure
Lewis & Clark Trail Adventures	Wendover Ridge Trail
Travelers` Rest Connection	Visions Of Lewis & Clark Kites
Confluence	Confluence Land Bridge Welcome
Fort Osage National Historic Landmark	Fort Osage Traveling Exhibit
Missouri River Relief	Missouri River Days: Jefferson City
Opera Theater Oregon	My Mother’s Language
Nez Perce Co. Hist. Society	Lewis & Clark/Nez Perce Speakers
Nez Perce Co. Hist. Society	4th Grade Hist. Rendezvous
Mouth Of the Platte, Inc.	L&C Interpretive Trail Updates
Falls of the Ohio Foundation	Lewis & Clark Tribute Statue Accessibility and Enhancements

The Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance (LCTA) is thrilled to announce the recipients of fifteen Trail Stewardship Grants for 2024 totaling \$79,554 in financial support. These grants reflect our ongoing commitment to preserving, promoting, and enhancing the historic Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

This year, we received a remarkable number of applications, highlighting the dedication and passion of individuals and organizations across the trail network. The overwhelming response created a highly competitive selection process. Each application was carefully evaluated based on established scoring standards and criteria that align with the goals and strategic priorities of both the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF) and LCTA.

The selection process considered several key factors, including: The longevity and sustainability of the proposed events or activities, the scale, scope, and breadth of the project or event, the

communities along the trail and the geographic distribution to ensure support across the trail network.

The awarded projects represent a diverse range of initiatives, from educational programs and community events to conservation efforts and infrastructure improvements. Together, these projects will contribute significantly to the stewardship and legacy of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

We are excited to see the positive impact these grants will have, and we extend our gratitude to all applicants for their commitment to preserving the history and relevance of this iconic trail.

The 2025 Trail Stewardship Grant Program will open for applicants on February 1st, 2025. Watch for future announcements on how to apply.

Kansas City Promo Video

Join Us for the Lewis & Clark Trail Alliance Annual Gathering!

Gateway to the West: Rivers and Trails

Save the dates—September 14–17, 2025 for an extraordinary journey through history, culture, and adventure in Kansas City, Missouri. Our host venue, the Kansas City Marriott Hotel on the vibrant Country Club Plaza, offers unmatched convenience and comfort. With access to the KC Streetcar and nearby world-class attractions like the Nelson-Atkins Art Gallery, Kemper Museum of Modern Art, and the National World War I Museum, the setting is perfect for this unique event.



Engaging Speakers

Get ready to hear from distinguished experts on fascinating topics including the Missouri River, Tribal Nations of Kansas City, and Women of the Frontier. The full speaker lineup will be announced soon!

Featured Excursions

Day 1: Fort Osage National Historic Landmark

Travel back to 1808 as we visit Fort Osage, a pivotal outpost established under William Clark's direction. Explore the reconstructed fort, view a rare circa-1800 dugout canoe from the Big Blue River, and learn about the fort's critical role in early American history and relations with the Osage Nation.

Day 2: Lewis & Clark Chautauqua at Kaw Point

Experience living history at Kaw Point, where the Kansas and Missouri Rivers converge. Enjoy river excursions, Dutch oven cooking, tribal crafts, fiddlers, and engaging frontier games. Hear stories of the Corps of Discovery's time at Kaw Point in 1804, bringing history to life.



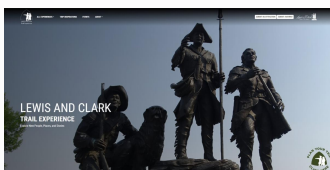
Marriott
Registration

Meeting Registration Opens
Early January 2025



Our Network of Online Resources

The Lewis and Clark Trail Experience links authentic communities and cultures—including tribes whose connections span thousands of years—to historic, vibrant and living landscapes. Be amazed at our travel website



The Lewis and Clark story ties together famous people, natural history, military expeditions, Native American history, and more. Explore the 2300+ pages of all things Lewis and Clark on our educational website



Our national alliance connects Lewis & Clark resources across the country, inspiring lasting public engagement and promoting a more knowledgeable, healthier society. Explore more at our Alliance website



TRAVEL

EDUCATION

ALLIANCE



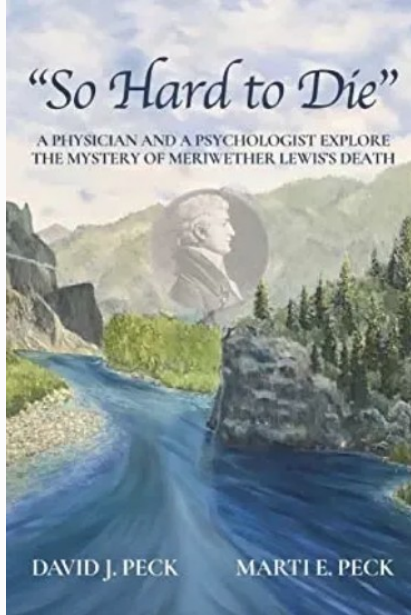
So Hard to Die

The Mysterious Death of Meriwether Lewis

Fans of the Lewis & Clark Expedition will have opportunities on January 17 and January 18 to learn valuable insights from two experts who can help answer nagging questions that, for the last two centuries, have vexed historians and aficionados of the famed 1803-06 journey.

Drs. David Peck and Marti Peck will give presentations at the Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West, Scottsdale, Arizona, about these issues:

- David will talk about the question of how successful were the explorers in their dealings with Native Americans? This presentation will be from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Mountain Time) on Friday, January 17.



• The next day, on January 18, David and Marti will focus on the long-unanswered question of how did Meriwether Lewis die—by suicide or by murder? This topic will be covered from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Mountain Time) .

The presentations are free to museum members; for non-members, \$10 per presentation. A person can attend one or both presentations.

Western Spirit Museum Programs

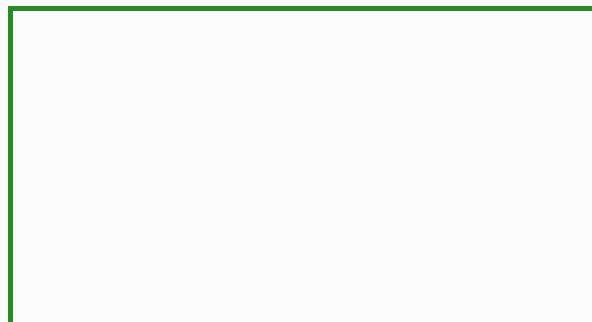
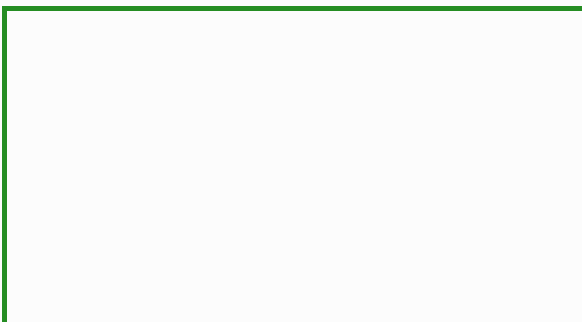
New Mobile APP for the Lewis and Clark Trail Experience

Experience the **Lewis & Clark Trail**
With Our **New APP**

Get it on
Google play

Download on the
App Store

Scan the QR Code with your mobile device





How Sacagawea is portrayed

Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center
4201 Giant Springs Road
7 PM January 9th, 2025

Barb Kubik, Lewis and Clark Expedition historian, will speak about stories that have accumulated for 220 years about Sacagawea, the young Agaiduka Shoshone woman who accompanied the 33-member Corps of Discovery.

Kubik will discuss how we use Sacagawea as a symbol, how we portray her in art and sculpture, and how the stories, symbols and statues compare to what we do know.

Kubik's program is part of the Ida Johnson Speaker Series and is sponsored by the Portage Route Chapter.



Philadelphia Walking Tour

Walk in the footsteps of Meriwether Lewis as he bought supplies for the expedition in 1803. At the same time, experience the birth of the United States at key places in the Independence National Historic Park. The trip by foot...

Stops: 10

Travel Distance: 1.55 miles

[VIEW INSPIRATION](#)

New LCTE Trip Inspiration Philadelphia Walking Tour

Walk in the footsteps of Meriwether Lewis as he bought supplies for the expedition in 1803. At the same time, experience the birth of the United States at key places in the Independence National Historic Park.

The trip by foot is 2 miles long. (If you open this itinerary in Google, be sure to switch the travel method Walking.) At some of the sites, expect security checks.

Tribal Pow Wows now in Events!

Thanks to our partners at the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) for contributing additional new Event content for the calendar.



AIANTA
American Indian Alaska Native
Tourism Association



Marcellus Northwest Memorial Veterans Powwow

Dates: July 12, 2025 - July 14, 2025

Location: 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347, USA ([View on Map](#))

The Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804–1806), commissioned by President Thomas Jefferson, passed through the regions inhabited by several of the tribes that are now part of the Grand Ronde Confederation. The Marcellus Northwest Memorial Veterans Powwow, sponsored by the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community, honors Native American veterans...

<https://nativeamerica.travel/listings/marcellus-norwest-memorial-veterans-pow-wow/>



Tamkaliks Celebration

Dates: July 18, 2025 - July 20, 2025

Location: 209 East 2nd Street, Wallowa, OR 97885, USA ([View on Map](#))

During the Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804–1806), the Corps of Discovery encountered several bands of the Nez Perce, including groups related to what would later be identified as the Wallowa Band. The Nez Perce provided critical assistance to the expedition by helping the explorers with food, shelter, and guidance over...

<https://www.wallowaneperce.org/tamkaliks/>



Milk River Indian Days

Dates: July 26, 2025 - July 28, 2025

Location: Fort Belknap Pow-Wow, Fort Belknap Agency, MT 59526, USA ([View on Map](#))

In the winter of 1804-1805, the Lewis and Clark Expedition learned about the Assiniboine while staying with the Mandan and Hidatsa in what is now North Dakota. Though the Corps of Discovery didn't have direct contact with the Assiniboine, they were aware of their important role in regional trade, particularly...

<https://nativeamerica.travel/listings/milk-river-indian-days/>

Last Chance for Photo Calendars

Get your 2025 calendar featuring images from the LCTA photo contest before they are all gone.

[Order Your Calendar Today](#)



lewisandclark.org



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