Washington State Kids at Outdoor School
While there are many ways to study and explore the story of the Lewis and Clark expedition, interpretive centers are one my favorite means of learning about the Corps of Discovery. I like interpretive centers particularly when they are located in close association with the places being interpreted. The ability to see exhibits and the actual place where a historic event occurred helps makes the abstract much more tangible.

The North Dakota Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center located in Washburn is an outstanding example of such a center. This site highlights the Corps of Discovery’s winter home from 1804-1805 with a reconstruction of Fort Mandan along with a museum and an art gallery. During the last week in July, the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation held their 45th Annual meeting in Bismarck.
One of the highlights of the meeting was a short trip north to Fort Mandan.

One of the aspects that make this interpretive center exceptional (besides those who work there) is that it continues to grow, adapt, and expand. Currently, the center is in the process of a 9,000 square foot expansion with 180-seat events center and a deck with sweeping views of the Missouri River. Plans also include the construction of a rare book and resource library, art and exhibit galleries, and interpretive office space.

This project will replace the Lewis and Clark gallery, with one that will showcase the John Fisher Collection of artifacts from the Expedition era. The renewed center will embrace a Jeffersonian “Age of Enlightenment” theme. New galleries will include the story of Prince Maximilian and Karl Bodmer and their time spent in the West. The reconstructed fort is also undergoing rehabilitation with assistance from the National Park Service Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail’s Partner Support Program.

This ongoing commitment to excellence makes each visit to the North Dakota Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center a new experience for both the first time and repeat visitor, as well as the serious scholar. If you have not visited recently, you are in for a great experience.

Please check out these exciting changes at http://www.fortmandan.com.

Mark Weekley, Superintendent
As the Volunteer Manager for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, I’ve had the opportunity to work with a number of great organizations and communities. This past June, I had the honor to work with the Friends of the Columbia Gorge on the two-day Vic Clausen Youth Education Program. The goal of the program is to expose local youth to the wonders of the Columbia Gorge, its significance as a national treasure, the story of its preservation and the story of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Read below to learn more about the program - a true success story! -Nichole McHenry

Washington State Kids at Outdoor School

by Maegan Jossy, Outdoor Programs Coordinator
Friends of the Columbia Gorge

Due to budget cuts, most students in the state of Washington are no longer able to reap the benefits of outdoor school. But since 2008, the efforts of a generous donor, a local nonprofit organization and a team of educators and volunteers have resulted in a special kind of outdoor school for sixth graders in the Washougal School District, located at the gateway of the Columbia River Gorge.

This past June, a new group of 240 Washougal sixth graders attended the two-day Vic Clausen Youth Education Program. The program is funded by Friends of the Columbia Gorge, a 5,000-member nonprofit dedicated to Gorge protection and promotion. Students participated in numerous activities to gain a deeper understanding of the unique natural and cultural qualities of the Columbia Gorge, as well as its important place in American history.
A highlight of the program was a visit from Lewis and Clark expert Roger Wendlick, who dresses in period clothes and entertains the students with stories and artifacts from the explorers’ journey through the Gorge on what is now the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

The students also learned from environmental educators, including Marianne Nelson, Bill Weiler, Greg Masarti, Dana Utroske, Andy Reid, Catherine Godfrey and Lance Koach, as they exposed local youth to the wonders of the Columbia Gorge, its significance as a national treasure, and the story of its preservation through the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act.

The Clausen program began with a gift from long-time Friends member Phyllis Clausen in honor of her late husband.

*I feel so encouraged to know that our program is growing and that in other places, too, people are remembering the values of outdoor programs for kids’ long term health and overall development. You are doing something of significant worth.* - Phyllis Clausen, 2011

To date, the program has served over 1,000 Washougal School District students, nurturing their connection to the nearby Gorge, building on their sense of place to help foster a land stewardship ethic, as well as creating fun and powerful memories from which they can draw when considering Gorge protection and promotion as adults.
More than 200 years ago, Thomas Jefferson commissioned Lewis and Clark to explore the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase; map and describe their route; record the details of the plants, animals, landscapes and people they encountered; and to undertake one of the greatest journeys in American history.

The story of the expedition of the Corps of Discovery still resonates in the public imagination today and travelers of all kinds continue to seek to travel in their footsteps. While most travelers may casually go sightseeing or leisurely visit a couple of historic spots over a period of a few days, the Lewis and Clark Trail inspires adventurers and modern-day explorers who seek to deeply immerse themselves in the trail’s geography and the vast landscapes for long periods of time.
On June 30, 2013, Charles Scott left his home in New York City with his wife Eiko and his children Sho and Saya to begin retracing the route of the Lewis and Clark expedition beginning at the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers.

On their Daunted Courage Expedition, the Scott family first journeyed along the Lewis and Clark trail by car, stopping along the way at Lewis and Clark visitor centers including the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Headquarters.

In North Dakota, Charles, a 45-year old writer dubbed Family Adventure Guy, his 12-year old son Sho, and 6-year old daughter Saya, abandoned the auto portion of the journey and will cycle the rest of the trail to the Pacific.

The Scotts have embarked on this endurance challenge as part of a Kickstarter campaign to raise money for charity. They plan on publishing a book as well National Geographic essays about their journey, examining changes to the natural environment along the trail, and conducting a “road kill” inventory along the way to demonstrate the impacts roads have on wildlife.

Perhaps most importantly, Scott intends to prove that just because his children are young doesn’t mean they aren’t up to the challenge of cycling the trail. The Scotts like to tell people, “A kid can do a whole lot more than most adults think.”

Follow Charles Scott and family on their Daunted Courage bike tour of the trail online: http://familyadventureguy.blogspot.com/

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Another Lewis and Clark Trail adventurer currently out on the trail is Janet Moreland, who recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from the University of Missouri as a non-traditional student at age 56. Moreland believes she will be the first woman to solo paddle the entire Missouri River and hopes to encourage her future students to successfully pursue any endeavor they desire with a positive attitude. She also hopes her journey, which she calls the *LoveYourBigMuddy Expedition*, will generate a greater awareness of issues concerning the Missouri River. Moreland wants to promote a sense of environmental responsibility and encourage students and communities to participate in river clean-ups, such as those organized by Missouri River Relief.

Follow Janet Moreland’s *LoveYourBigMuddy* expedition online: http://loveyourbigmuddy.com
While sitting at his desk job in Chicago, 27-year old Scott Mestrezat daydreamed of embarking on a long distance, human-powered expedition. He found the courage and inspiration to navigate the entire Missouri River all the way to St. Louis on his standup paddleboard. Mestrezat, an avid photographer, hopes to use his cameras to record his journey down the river in order to portray his experiences as accurately as possible. If all goes as planned, his Missouri River SUP (short for “stand up paddleboard”) will be completed in September.

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Follow Scott Mestrezat’s Missouri River SUP adventure online: http://www.missouririversup.com/blog
Adventurers, continued

One major benefit for each of these long-distance trail adventurers is their ability to use modern technology to quickly communicate to a global audience. They are able to tell their stories with photographs and descriptions of journeys that are uploaded to blogs at the end of each day. Using online maps and Global Positioning Systems (GPS), these travelers can instantly record their locations along the trail and display their route for loved ones and others who wish to follow their journeys.

In sharp contrast, Thomas Jefferson received his first detailed accounting of the progress of the Lewis and Clark expedition in mid-July, 1805 when he received letters and maps sent by Lewis from Ft. Mandan, a year and two months after the Corps of Discovery left Camp Dubois. Upon the Corps of Discovery’s return to the small village La Charette upstream from St. Louis in September of 1806, William Clark wrote in his journal:

*every person, both French and americans Seem to express great pleasure at our return, and acknowledged them selves much astonished in Seeing us return. they informed us that we were Supposed to have been lost long Since, and were entirely given out by every person &c.*
Though the Corps of Discovery carried scientific instruments and advanced technologies for the time, communication about their journey occurred at a snail’s pace— or not at all.

Today we know the stories of the expedition of Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery through vivid journal entries, detailed maps, and descriptive letters. Had today’s technologies been available, the Corps would have undoubtedly used them—Google Earth certainly would have come in handy. Doubtless President Jefferson would have been constantly refreshing his browser, frustrated that Meriwether Lewis still hadn’t updated his Facebook status. Clark, who is known for his short journal entries and creative spelling, would have had no problem with Twitter’s 140-character limit (#musquetorsverytroublesom).

While such ideas are humorous and hard to imagine, it is comforting to recognize that the Lewis and Clark Trail is so special that it continues to captivate armchair travelers, casual visitors, and rugged adventurers alike.

Photo by Janet Moreland
Over 200 years ago it served as a segment of Lewis and Clark’s journey, and as recently as 40 years ago it was the town dump. Now Discovery Hill (formerly Dump Hill) has become one of Salmon’s best and newest venues for recreation, where users can hike, mountain bike and listen to informative podcasts.

The 1.6-mile Discovery Hill Podcast Trail is the inspiration of Elizabeth Townley, the Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Salmon Field Office.

Townley thought the podcasts would help locals and visitors alike appreciate their public lands more and draw attention to what is a beautiful and historic area less than 2 miles from downtown Salmon, Idaho.

“People would sort of just ride all over; dump their trash not at the dump, just on the ground,” said Townley. “Some time after, we found out that Lewis and Clark went through this area in their 1805 Corps of Discovery and our local archaeologists actually found intact segments of the trail tread.”
In 2011, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Partner Support Program awarded BLM nonprofit partner Salmon Valley Stewardship (SVS) a grant to fund the podcast project. "Jill and her colleagues at the National Park Service believed in our approach of using popular technology and involving students to create material that helps people understand how amazing our Lewis and Clark history is," said Gina Knudson, Salmon Valley Stewardship director.

Knudson explained that there were many steps to getting to the end product -- a podcast series available for download on iTunes. "Discovery Hill has a lot of existing trails, so we needed to select a segment of this trail that made a loop, had fairly easy terrain, good accessibility from the road, and one that had great views. The founder of our local mountain biking association was hugely instrumental in helping us pick just the right spot -- a 1.6-mile loop right across from a convenient parking area and trailhead," she said. Then they needed to create six numbered markers that would correspond to the podcasts. They recruited the Salmon High School volleyball team to install the markers and do minor trail maintenance to get the loop in shape for visitors of all ages. The Salmon High School art class creatively painted metal headphone markers and directional arrows to set the Discovery Hill Podcast Loop apart from the numerous other trails in the area.

"We know we wanted a lot of youth involvement in the podcast development, but we hadn't anticipated just how many different ways we would need kids to help. Every time we asked kids to help, more people learned about the podcasts. That was a very cool and unexpected benefit," Knudson said.

Sage Howe, a senior at Salmon High School recorded and edited podcasts on topics such

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As important as the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark Expedition were to the development of the United States, those events were only two components of a much larger pattern of major power politics unfolding on the world scene at the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th. The United States had taken its place on the global chessboard with the successful conclusion of its war for independence against Great Britain. It remained to be seen whether the fledgling republic could advance and protect its vital interests in the rough and tumble game of monarchical power politics.

Contrary to the barrage of criticism from congressional opponents in 1803, President Thomas Jefferson’s acquisition of the vast Louisiana Territory by diplomatic means proved to be a stroke of good fortune for the nation in more ways than one. Not only did it more than double the size of the United States but it also meant that the Lewis and Clark Expedition, which was in an advanced stage of preparations, would travel across U.S.-owned territory for a major portion of the journey rather than lands claimed by a European power.

This noteworthy change in the country’s future prospects was brought about by a fascinating concatenation of events that dated back to the end of the French and Indian War in North America in 1763. France lost to Great Britain and her allies. The loss was costly: France had to cede her Canadian and Great Lakes territories to Britain but managed to transfer the trans-Mississippi area, as well as New Orleans and the Floridas, to Spain, thereby withholding those prizes from the British. However, when Napoleon Bonaparte seized power in France at the end of the bloody and
polarizing French Revolution, he pursued an imperial policy of continental expansion which inevitably had ramifications in North America and the Caribbean.

As Napoleon gathered the reins of power to himself, he pressured Juan Carlos IV, the hapless Spanish monarch in 1800, into signing a secret treaty of retrocession (the Treaty of San Ildefonso) which provided for the return of the trans-Mississippi region, including New Orleans, to France. Rumors of the secret treaty were already circulating by the time the Jefferson administration decided to try to buy New Orleans and some surrounding territory in order to ensure U.S. ships ready access to that city’s port facilities at the mouth of the Mississippi River.

Shortly after France reacquired the Louisiana Territory, a full-fledged war for independence broke out in the French colony of Haiti in the Caribbean. As Napoleon moved to consolidate all political power in his hands, he decided to put an end to the rebellion once and for all. He assembled a massive fleet to carry into battle a large force of seasoned troops and placed the whole operation under the command of his brother-in-law, General Charles Victor Emmanuel Leclerc. At the same time, he formed another large task force which he planned to dispatch to New Orleans and the reacquired Louisiana Territory in order to establish an unchallengeable French presence there; but, he held this expeditionary force in reserve until the Haitian problem could be resolved.

The Haitians proved to be highly motivated and very effective guerrilla fighters. The French troops were unaccustomed to such irregular and brutal warfare, especially under tropical conditions. Not only were the French legions outmaneuvered and mauled by the Haitian freedom fighters, but from the very beginning they were mercilessly riddled by wave after wave of diminutive attackers: a virtual “air force” of disease-bearing mosquitoes descended on them. It was not known at the time that these whining, bloodthirsty little marauders were carriers of the highly infectious and deadly yellow fever virus.

By 1803, the rebellion was no nearer an end.

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Podcast, continued

as the Lewis and Clark expedition and one of Idaho’s well-known birds, the sage grouse. Howe is optimistic that the podcast trail as well as the greater Discovery Hill trail system will encourage youth as well as their families to experience the outdoors more often.

“I hope that it [the podcast trail] will make it more popular, because now high school students are so into electronics and being on the computer and TV that they never really get to be outside,” Howe said.

Eight students from grades 8 - 12 ended up helping with writing scripts, editing, and narrating the original 6 podcasts. SVS staff member Rachel Layman took on the surprisingly complicated task of getting the podcasts uploaded to iTunes. Happily, the series is now fully functioning and available at https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/salmon-valley-stewardship/id639728385?mt=2

Knudson said now that the first series is completed, there is a lot of interest in developing new podcasts. "When we first started talking to teachers and kids about the podcast concept, I’m not sure everyone knew what we were talking about. Now that we have a nice sample product, we have teachers who are scheduling field trips with us and talking to us about writing new scripts so I’m hopeful that we’ve created a program that can be dynamic and fun well into the future." ■

Listen to Podcasts 1-3

Click on a number to listen to a podcast.
**Little Known Facts, continued**

Only about 8,000 of the original invasion force of 50,000 troops survived the ordeal. Many succumbed to heat prostration and the ravages of yellow fever. Among the victims was commanding General Leclerc. France’s losses were massive and rapidly escalating when Napoleon decided to cut loose from Haiti and to sell the whole of the Louisiana Territory in order to concentrate his attention and resources on the resumption of his campaign to dominate all of Europe. He had a willing buyer in the United States. As the sale of Louisiana was being initialed, Napoleon was said to have declared: “This accession of territory strengthened for ever the power of the United States; and I have just given England a maritime rival that will sooner or later humble her pride.”

Thomas Jefferson’s territorial ambitions for the United States were greatly advantaged by Napoleon’s vaulting imperial designs. Once the emperor focused solely on Europe, he could jettison France’s colonial possessions in the Western Hemisphere and replenish his sagging treasury in the bargain.

President Jefferson’s negotiators in Paris – Robert Livingston and James Monroe – served well the future interests of the United States when they moved the negotiations along, at the emperor’s suggestion, to encompass all of the Louisiana Territory rather than confining the discussions to the port city of New Orleans. It takes nothing away from their insight and political acumen, however, to observe that U. S. interests were also advanced by factors and forces over which the nation and its representatives had absolutely no control; namely, the tenacious Haitian freedom fighters and the ferocious, but unheralded, “allies” embedded in the swarms of yellow fever-bearing mosquitoes. The decimation of the French expeditionary force could not have come at a more opportune time for the U.S. and its long-term interests. In today’s diplomatic vernacular, Napoleon Bonaparte had blinked!

**SOURCES:**

Did you know you can sew paper together? Or identify an animal by its poop? Or that Iowa and Nebraska are the two most altered states in the nation? About 35 kids learned these things and so much more during a new National Park Service summer camp, held at the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail (Trail) Headquarters in July.

In an attempt to reach an underserved population, the Trail collaborated with the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Recruitment Office of the NPS Midwest Regional Office (MWRO), to host a day camp targeted at Omaha’s urban middle school students.

This camp was the first of its kind to be launched by the Trail and the EEO office, as a pilot for an annual camp that will immerse middle school students to the National Park Service. The Trail Headquarters was chosen for the many lessons that students can learn from the Lewis and Clark story, as well as for the easy access for urban youth to the headquarters’ visitor center.

Recruitment Program Manager Alvis Mar and Trail Ranger Byrony Forbes planned three half days of activities using the context of the Lewis and Clark expedition as the overarching story. Various activities and programs, geared towards different learning styles, were designed to enable youth to learn the way rivers, particularly the Missouri River, are important to navigation, preservation, cultural communication and habitat.
The two camps were attended by 17 girls from Girl’s Inc. and 17 youth from the Salvation Army’s North Omaha unit. Programming included teamwork building games, Native American culture and lifeways, sewing paper using 19th century methods, and art journaling. Other programs included identifying native plants and utilizing GPS to plot points which were later entered into Good Earth. They also learned how to find their way in Lewis and Clark fashion…using a compass.

Campers also participated in a fashion show, trying on clothes that members of the expedition would have worn, learning about the unique characteristics of some of the corps members, including Lewis’s dog, Seaman.

Excitement and exclamations were heard in abundance on the third and last day of camp, as the kids were taken to De Soto National Wildlife Refuge, a US and Wildlife Service (USFWS) refuge in Missouri Valley, Iowa. The first group of campers had their first wildlife experience as soon as they got out of their van, as a large snapping turtle was meandering his way through the parking lot. Getting close (but not too close!), the girls peppered USFWS Ranger Ashley Danielson with questions about the turtle, later coming to the consensus that the turtle’s name was to be “Ralph.” Many of the campers had never been in a wildlife environment, and their mouths and eyes opened wide when they learned fascinating facts. Students spotted wildlife through binoculars, recorded the different animals they saw, utilized nets to catch small wetland critters, and hiked a nature trail where they saw a variety of birds, beaver-chewed trees, and unusual bugs.

Based on youth and chaperone comments, the camp was a success in opening urban youths’ eyes to the stories and wildlife that live right within their area. They had a better knowledge of the NPS and the Trail, and were given an opportunity to think about future careers.

It is hoped that the summer youth camp will continue to grow and become an annual event, creating opportunities for students to become stewards of the lands that are theirs to care for. And ensuring that stories like that of the Lewis and Clark Expedition will continue to be told, and turtles like Ralph can continue to excite and inspire future generations. ■

With MWRO employee Latoya Lee setting the beat, the students learned and danced to a water safety rap
As part of the new wayshowing plan, Lewis and Clark NHT is working in collaboration with Colorado State University to complete an in-depth wayfinding, wayshowing and visitor resource assessment.

This component of the overall wayshowing plan is very important because it gauges the current condition and needs for signage from the perspective of state agency stakeholders, visitor center managers and visitors.

The project assessments are divided up into three phases. Phase 1 includes the state agency stakeholder assessment. This phase focuses on interviewing staff members from state departments of transportation, state tourism offices, byway committees, and a host of other experts and interested citizens. Phase 2 will be completed early this fall by visitor center managers across the trail to get their perspective on wayshowing, interpretation and other visitor services. Phase 3 is comprised of the visitor...
assessment survey to survey visitors of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail on the wayshowing, interpretation and visitor service experiences.

The visitor survey was approved by the Office of Management and Budget in June. Starting in July 2013 a series of graduate student teams will administer the survey on site at each of the 11 states with an anticipated response of 400 completed surveys.

After all three phases are complete, Colorado State University will conduct a qualitative and quantitative analysis to categorize and interpret the responses, and provide a report to the Lewis and Clark NHT. Overall, the report will help in developing and improving the wayshowing and visitor experience of the Lewis and Clark NHT.

The survey and assessment project is coordinated by Colorado State University Ph.D candidate Sam Martin, under the guidance of Professor Alan Bright, Ph.D.

Sam is working on his Ph.D. specializing in heritage tourism in the department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources. In addition to Sam’s research, he is also an instructor and outreach coordinator for Colorado State University’s Master of Tourism Management program.

The Human Dimensions program at Colorado State University is nationally known for numerous projects focused on parks, recreation and tourism.
Ask yourself what you remember from your fourth grade history lessons? Probably not much. So how can we change this and make history fun and exciting? I know from experience that the medium of puppetry can make the difference between a boring lesson and a fun lesson. Puppetry makes people and events come alive. It’s the “hook” to make history exciting and relevant to children and adults.

The Puppetry Arts Institute, based in Independence, Missouri, helps to tell the Lewis and Clark story through the eyes of Seaman the dog. Dogs are loveable and imaginations can easily be roused as Seaman becomes the narrator and begins to weave humor into the story.

The script for the marionette theater production was researched and written by Joann McMillian, a puppeteer and writer of other historical shows for the Chandler Historical Society of Chandler, Oklahoma. She collaborated with National Frontier Trails Center in Independence, Missouri, and Fort
Osage National Historic Landmark in Sibley, Missouri, to ensure historical accuracy. Artistic Director Pady Blackwood, a 45-year master puppeteer, designed the marionettes.

The show requires three puppeteers and a traveling stage that can be set up in most venues. The puppeteers are in full view while using the marionettes but your attention is focused on the marionettes, so the puppeteers tend to disappear. The show features music, special effects, slides and even a brief shadow puppet scene.

The show has been around since 2004 when it debuted at the National Frontier Trails Center and in the National Park Service Tent of Many Voices at Kaw Point in Kansas City, Kansas.

Other performance venues have been the Discovery Center in Kansas City, Missouri, the “Trails West” event in St. Joseph, Missouri, the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis and the Chandler Historical Society of Oklahoma. The National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, along with the Booth Western Art Museum in Carterville, Georgia, have been hosts. The show was also performed in local libraries, children’s museums and nature centers. Just this past July we performed at the Shawnee Indian Mission located in Fairway, Kansas.

The Lewis and Clark story is timeless and bears repeating. Puppetry is the means to bring the story to life for children and adults alike.

For more information, please contact The Puppetry Arts Institute, 11025 E. Winner Rd, Independence, Missouri 64052 -816-833-9777. www.hazelle.org.
During the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, the U.S. Mint sold Lewis and Clark Expedition Bicentennial Commemorative silver dollars. Proceeds were given to the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation which established the Lewis & Clark Trail Stewardship Endowment: A National Council of the Lewis & Clark Expedition Bicentennial Legacy Project.

Each year, the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation (LCTHF) awards grants to projects that preserve, protect, and interpret the natural, historic, educational, and cultural resources of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and Eastern Legacy Route.

We have $50,000 available for distribution this next fiscal year. Proposals are due October 1, 2013 and decisions will be made in December 2013. The Maximum grant is $7,500 and minimum $1,000.

Nonprofit organizations meeting the grant criteria (having a 501c3 or tax exempt status under an umbrella organization) and other partners that work and apply directly through one of our Chapters are eligible to apply.

Keep in mind that LCTHF Chapter projects have priority in funding. This is the first year we have opened grants to the public (non-Chapters), and I am very excited to see scope of funding proposals we will receive.

To read more about the program, download grant guidelines, frequently asked questions, or a grant application, please follow this link: http://www.lewisandclark.org/LCTHF2/PRESERVE.html or visit our website: www.lewisandclark.org and click the link on the homepage or click PRESERVE.

You may contact executive director and grants administrator Lindy Hatcher by e-mail at grants@lewisandclark.org with any further questions.
Partner Networking and Data Collection Portal
Start Using it Today!

What Do You and Lewis and Clark Have in Common? They Recorded Statistics and So Do You!

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail announces the newly developed *Partner Networking and Data Collection Portal* which was designed for partner organizations to collect data for various visitor statistics and volunteer hours. The Portal is a free, secure, web-based system accessible to program managers, partner organizations and volunteers. The Portal’s primary purpose is to provide Lewis and Clark organizations with a systematic process for entering statistics, networking with trail sites, and resource sharing.

- Access, maintain, and update records quickly
- Create professional reports
- Reduce the amount of data entry time
- Record hours
- Recruitment
- Special Program announcements

To Establish Your Account and to Get Started Recording Your Statistics Contact:

Nichole McHenry
Volunteer Program Manager
Nichole_McHenry@nps.gov
(402) 661-1810

Partner Networking and Data Collection Portal
Software Designed with The Partner in Mind
In an effort to better serve you, we are taking steps to improve our mailing list. To conserve resources, much of our communication efforts have transitioned to digital format. Periodically we still send hardcopy announcements on various topics. Having an accurate email and surface mailing address will ensure that we can reach you effectively. Please take this opportunity to either subscribe or update your contact information and provide us with your interests. For questions, contact Karla Sigala, Editor at (402) 661-1826 or at: lecl_communications@nps.gov.

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Would you like to contribute an article or feature to *The Trail Companion*? Share the good work you are doing.

We will be happy to accept your article for consideration in future issues. *The Trail Companion* is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November.

Please contact the editor, Karla Sigala for questions at:

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