Since the fall of 2009, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail staff has produced this quarterly newsletter. This issue is number 23, and it will be the final issue of The Trail Companion. Our goal was to communicate with our friends and partners along the Trail.

At that time we felt this newsletter was the best tool we had to do this. Our first issue did not even have a name; it was just labeled Newsletter Fall 2009. By the next issue we had named our publication The Trail Companion. I really liked this name because I felt like it expressed our hope for it to become a guide and tool to keep everyone along the trail informed about what we were doing and who we were. In many ways this publication was a success.

However, things change and we need to change as well. Within less than a year of producing our first newsletter we switched from a printed publication sent through the mail to an electronic version. I heard from some of you who really did not like this change, but most of you adjusted quickly. This change was driven by significant cost savings and the ability to quickly deliver and track readership patterns. Unfortunately, interest in this publication decreased as time went on, instead of increasing as we had hoped. We realized this year that the time and cost of producing a newsletter could no longer be justified. Too few people were reading our publication to justify its continued production.

I want to thank those of you who have read this newsletter and let us know how much you have appreciated it. I especially want to thank the partners, volunteers, and staff who have contributed articles and photos.
Most of all I want to give a huge thanks to Karla Sigala who served as the publisher, editor, layout and design wizard and technical expert for The Trail Companion. Karla’s talent for finding great photos and laying out this publication in an attractive and easy to read manner gave it a very polished and professional look. Karla, more than anyone, made this publication possible.

While this publication no longer meets the needs we intended for it, we are still very interested in sharing information and staying connected with our friends and partners. Our focus today will be to produce an annual report, to continue with a strong social media presence, and to look into other communication channels that are vastly more effective and less expensive.

So while I am sad that our great little publication is coming to an end, I remain as optimistic as ever about the future for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and all of us connected to it.

MARK WEEKLEY
Superintendent
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail has created a series of Story Maps using the web mapping functionality available through ArcGIS Online. Story Maps provide a unique way to view the story of Lewis and Clark. Through these Story Maps, you can discover the flora, fauna, geology, and places encountered during the journey of the Corps of Discovery. Previously released Story Maps have recently been updated to include new information and links where visitors can learn more about each topic. Two new Story Maps have been developed this year, each highlighting different aspects of the trail.

Journey on the Road to the Buffalo is a Story Map journal that examines the history, environment, and recreational opportunities found in the Alice Creek Historic District in Montana.

The new Story Map entitled Officially Designated Water Trails provides information about the six designated water trails along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and includes links to the webpages for each water trail.

This summer, several Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Story Maps will be showcased at the 2016 ESRI User Conference, the premier Geographic Information Systems (GIS) conference with over 15,000 attendees from around the world. The National Park Service will be celebrating the Centennial at the conference with a special exhibit, panel discussion, and kiosk booths, where the Story Maps will be displayed.

Keep an eye out for new Story Maps to be released in the future!

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Story Maps can be viewed on our website: https://www.nps.gov/lecl/planyourvisit/maps.htm

RYAN M. COOPER
Geographer
On a cool spring day in April, members of the Jefferson River Canoe Trail Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation installed an interpretive sign and public access signs at Shoshone Landing, officially opening the floater camp and walk-in fishing access site to public use.

As reported in the May 2014 issue of The Trail Companion, Chapter members raised funds and applied for a grant to the Montana Fish & Wildlife Conservation Trust to complete the 4.37-acre property purchase. The acquisition was finalized later that fall.

Chapter members went to work in 2015, fixing fences, installing gates and barbecue grills, and planting trees. More than one hundred native trees were planted on the site, including cottonwood, juniper, chokecherry, and red osier dogwood. The trees were donated by Stephen Gough, author of Colter’s Run. The Group members bucketed water to trees near the river and installed a temporary pump in the slough to water trees along the back fence.

Chapter member Warren Swager donated an interpretive sign for the site, with Chapter members collaboratively writing the text:

**Shoshone Landing**

The Three Forks of the Missouri were favored buffalo hunting grounds for the Agaidika band of the Shoshone people. In 1800, the Shoshone were camped a few miles upstream from this point when they were attacked by Hidatsa warriors. Several Shoshone were killed in the attack. Four boys and numerous young women and girls, including 12-year-old Sacajawea, were captured and taken back to Hidatsa villages in present-day North Dakota. Later, Toussaint Charbonneau, a French-Canadian trader and interpreter living with the Hidatsa, took Sacajawea as his wife.

The Corps of Discovery, led by captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, wintered near the Mandan and Hidatsa people in 1804. Lewis and Clark hired Charbonneau to accompany them upriver the following spring with the agreement that Sacajawea would join the Expedition to act as their “interpretess,” as Clark described her, when they met her people, the Shoshone.

The Corps camped for three days near the confluence of the Jefferson and Madison rivers, upstream from the confluence with the Gallatin River, and four river miles downstream from this point. They began their ascent of the Jefferson River on July 30, 1805.

This campsite is named Shoshone Landing in honor of the people who call this area home.
The sign also includes Lewis’s journal entry from July 30th, 1805. Local artist Susan Jarman produced the watercolor artwork for the sign.

The group also created and installed public access signs for the gates, officially opening the site to public use. One of the first paddlers to camp there was Kris Laurie, paddling source-to-sea, from the Rocky Mountains to the Gulf of Mexico.

The Jefferson River Canoe Trail is one of several water trails along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Members of the Canoe Trail hope that one day these water trails will be connected into one great national water trail with designated campsites all the way down.

To learn more about the Jefferson River Canoe Trail go to www.JeffersonRiver.org.

**THOMAS J. ELPEL**  
Jefferson River Canoe Trail
The National Park Service Centennial is a not only a grand opportunity to celebrate the past successes of “America’s Best Idea,” but it offers an opportunity to ensure future generations learn about their heritage while refreshing their minds and bodies in the national parks and trails. The United States has a unique system of public parks and trails that must go beyond the image of “outdoor museums” and trails with “do not touch” signs. This is an opportunity to teach the American people, and international visitors, about heritage and resource preservation, and how each of us can be actively engaged in its protection.

The Lewis and Clark Trust, Inc was established in 2011 and is dedicated to telling and preserving the Lewis and Clark story. Building on the National Park Service Centennial goal to connect with and create the next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates, we are proud to align ourselves in a position where education is a primary focus.

We are proud to announce that we are entering our third year in sponsoring the 2016 Lewis and Clark Teachers Seminar. Together with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and the University of Montana, we will sponsor 30 teachers, K-12, selected from all states. The week long in-depth study of the Lewis and Clark Expedition will investigate the Corps of Discovery’s contributions to science, exploration, and diplomacy with tribes. It will also explore failures that occurred and how they overcame those set-backs.

The seminar is led by eminent American Western History Scholar and writer, Dr. Elliott West, Alumni Distinguished Professor of History at the University of Arkansas. Dr. West will be aided by other Lewis and Clark scholars and writers. The teachers will analyze the story of Lewis and Clark from the written journals and other primary source material as well as the oral traditions of the tribes that were instrumental in their success. Throughout the seminar teachers will delve into the history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition and will learn about the various teaching resources available.
While the highly motivated teachers receive a learning experience at no cost, they make a commitment to return to their classrooms ready to teach in their respective disciplines with an understanding of Lewis and Clark values for success. The course takes the teachers beyond the expedition to view the impact it had on the world in the early 1800’s and how it is still impacting our lives today. The long days, sometimes sun up to past sundown, include leadership from the on-site Gilder Lehrman staff who will assist the teachers with their lesson plans to ensure they align with their respective school system requirements. The teachers are ready to hit the ground running when they return to their classroom.

Many of the NPS Centennial projects are focused on education, a focus the Lewis and Clark Trust supports. The schools of our country are the podium to spread the message of the great treasures we call the national parks and trails. Each teacher enriches the lives of hundreds of children every year, enrichment that will pay societal dividends in future generations through the understanding of their heritage and desire for preservation. The national scenic and historic trails, especially the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, are classrooms without walls.

We must provide teachers with the knowledge to teach the complete story of Lewis and Clark and the impacts that followed.

JAMES L. MALLORY
Vice Chairman, Lewis and Clark Trust, Inc.
www.lewisandclarktrust.org
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail is proud to unveil two new Junior Ranger Activity Books, designed specifically for those visiting the Omaha, Nebraska Visitor Center and Headquarters.

Each activity book has age-specific activities that will guide kids of all ages to learn about the history, science, and American Indian traditions during the time of Lewis and Clark.

Upon completing the activities and reciting the pledge, Junior Rangers will receive their very own badge.

We invite you to visit us and take part in this new Omaha-based Junior Ranger program. It’s FREE and available to kids of all ages.

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Visitor Center
601 Riverfront Drive • Omaha, NE 68102
402-661-1804
Welcome

Two New Employees join Lewis and Clark NHT

Kristine Struck
Outdoor Recreation Planner

Kristine began her federal career in 1998 with the US Fish & Wildlife Service in outdoor recreation and environmental education working on national wildlife refuges in North Dakota, Colorado, and Washington states. She has worked for the Bureau of Land Management for the last 6 years; first as a wilderness specialist in northern Nevada then as an environmental planner in western Oregon.

She is excited for the opportunity to work for the National Park Service. When she isn’t at work, Kristine enjoys horseback riding, reading, gardening, and hanging out with her husband and their numerous pets.

Rob Karg
Park Guide

Rob is retired from the US Navy and Delta Airlines. During his navy career Rob was an aircrewman on a Lockheed P3 Orion maritime patrol/anti-submarine warfare aircraft. He spent 16 of his 20-year career overseas in foreign assignments such as Morocco, Italy, Spain, Okinawa, Philippines and Hawaii.

This is Rob’s first season at LECL. His previous positions include Yellowstone NP, Glacier NP, King’s Canyon NP, Cape Hatteras National Seashore and Gateway National Recreation Area. Rob enjoys traveling and photography.
Mark Weekley, Superintendent
mark_weekley@nps.gov • 402-661-1804

Mark has worked for the National Park Service since 1992 in a variety of leadership positions. In 2009, he became Superintendent of Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Prior to this position he served for 10 years as the Midwest Region Chief of the Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance program, as well as the regional manager for several ancillary programs. Mark has Bachelor of Arts degrees in History and Political Science from the University of Minnesota and Bachelor of Landscape Architecture and Master of Science in Landscape Architecture degrees from Iowa State University.

Neal Bedlan, Chief of Interpretation
neal_bedlan@nps.gov • 402-661-1816

Neal has had a strong connection to conservation, parks, and recreation in various capacities from city management to non-profit management, state parks and federal service. Neal holds a Master of Public Administration with an emphasis in Human Dimensions of Natural Resources from the University of Nebraska Omaha. Neal began his National Park Service career in 2008 as the Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and in 2015 he was selected to be the Chief of Interpretation. In his free time he enjoys numerous outdoor activities, working on his acreage, and spending time with his family.

Dan Wiley, Chief of Resources Stewardship
dan_wiley@nps.gov • 402-661-1830

An environmental advocate since childhood, Dan’s adult life has been devoted to the understanding and conservation of natural ecosystems. Dan holds a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources Wildlife Management with graduate work in Plant and Animal Ecology. He has a strong belief in networks and partnerships based on common missions. Dan has 14 years with the National Park Service. Dan is a life long hunter and fisherman. He has been an instructor of Project WET, WILD, and Learning Tree, Hunter Education and multiple disciplines of firearms.

Miki Griffen, Chief of Business Services
miki_griffen@nps.gov • 402-661-1814

Miki holds a MBA that specializes in corporate finance and strategy. Miki has been an Administrative Officer since 2014 and is finding herself in a leadership position among her field. She was in the military for over seven years and has visited a handful of countries while completing military missions and training.

Richard Basch, American Indian Liaison
richard_basch@nps.gov • (503) 861-4404

Dick’s Clatsop/Nehalem ancestors hosted the Lewis and Clark expedition during their 1805-1806 wintering at Fort Clatsop. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Community Service & Public Affairs from the University of Oregon and a K – 12 teaching certificate. Dick worked for over 15 years in tribal schools and for six years as Director of Indian Education for Seattle Public Schools. He has worked with all tribes along the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, and emphasizes the importance of the Expedition not only through the eyes of the Corps members, but also through the eyes of those who were there greeting them to their Homelands.

Julie Blanchard, Supervisory Park Ranger (Interpretation)
julie_blanchard@nps.gov • 402-661-1808

A native of Indiana, Julie graduated from Iowa State University with a B.S. in Earth Science. She started her NPS career in 2001 as a seasonal at Golden Spike National Historic Site and Timpanogos Cave National Monument working in interpretation. Her first permanent position was at Dinosaur National Monument as the Administrative Technician. Most recently Julie was working in interpretation at Haleakala National Park.
Ryan M. Cooper, Geographic Information Systems Specialist  
ryan_m_cooper@nps.gov • 402-661-1868

Ryan joined the staff of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail in February of 2008. A native of Missouri, Ryan holds both Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees in Geography from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He began his federal career with the National Park Service at the Ozark National Scenic Riverways before moving to Nevada where he was GIS Coordinator for the Natural Resources Conservation Service. In his spare time, he enjoys cooking, playing guitar, and traveling with his wife and son.

Rachel Daniels, Natural Resources Specialist  
rachel_daniels@nps.gov  •  402-661-1934

Rachel joined the staff of Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail in May of 2010, she has spent her entire NPS career with the Trail. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Geography from the University of Nebraska Omaha with an emphasis on Geographic Information Systems. When not at work, Rachel enjoys spending time with her husband and children.

Dan Jackson, Cultural Resources Specialist  
dan_jackson@nps.gov  •  402-661-1942

Dan Jackson has been the Cultural Resources Specialist for Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail since 2015. After receiving a Bachelor of Arts in History from Marietta College, Dan began his career with the National Park Service in 2008. Prior to joining Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, he worked as a Landscape Historian for the Midwest Regional Office's Cultural Landscapes and Historic Structures program.

Karla Sigala, Interpretive Specialist  
karla_sigala@nps.gov  •  402-661-1826

Karla began her career with the National Park Service in 1999 at Chamizal National Memorial while a student at the University of Texas at El Paso. After completing her Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics with a minor in English/Spanish Translation, she proudly joined the ranks of the NPS Rangers and moved on to work at Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument in Southern New Mexico. She later served as Education Coordinator and Park Ranger at Arkansas Post National Memorial. Karla has served as Interpretive Specialist at Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail since 2008.

Kenneth Points, Park Guide  
richard_basch@nps.gov  •  402-661-1810

Kenny is a Nebraska native. He grew up in Fort Calhoun and in 2014 he joined the staff of Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail after graduating from the University of Nebraska Omaha with a Bachelor of General Studies with a concentration in Park and Recreation Administration. He began working for the National Park Service in 2009 with the Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance program. Kenny developed a love for the outdoors on family camping trips to Yellowstone and hopes to hand his passion down to future outdoor stewards.

Kristie Horn, Western National Parks Association  
kristie.horn@wnpa.org  •  402-661-1968

Kristie serves as the Trail's Western National Parks Association Store Coordinator. She previously served as a Volunteer-in-Parks in several capacities such as front desk duties, special events, and informal interpretive contacts.
Ryan Kephart, Park Guide Student Trainee  
ryan_kephart@nps.gov • 402-661-1874

Originally from Duluth, Minnesota, Ryan grew up in the Northwoods before getting his Bachelor of Arts in History as well as Theatre from Saint John’s University. After living and teaching in China for a year, Ryan started his career in public service at the USPS as a Mail Carrier. Ryan now lives in Lincoln where he attends the University of Nebraska - Lincoln, working towards a Master of Arts in History.

Tom Litton, Park Guide Student Trainee  
tom_litton@nps.gov • 402-661-1960

Tom served in the U.S. Army for a little under eight years with deployments to both Iraq and Afghanistan. He is currently a full time history and criminal justice student at the University of Nebraska Omaha. He began working for the National Park Service in January of 2016 at Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. His hobbies and interests include hiking, camping, and generally anything history or nature related. His ideal day is getting lost in the woods for several hours and seeing new things.

Abraham Mora, Park Guide Student Trainee  
abrahama_morabecerra@nps.gov • 402-661-1942

Abraham is currently an environmental science student with a minor in sustainability at the University of Nebraska Omaha. Growing up he always knew that he wanted to have a career related to nature. Not quite knowing what specifically he wanted to do, he has been exploring his career options throughout college. Living by the motto “give it all you got” he makes sure all tasks are well done. On his free time he enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking, archery, cycling, and camping.

Ken Schlueter, Volunteer  
ken_schlueter@partner.nps.gov

Ken retired from the Union Pacific Railroad in 2013 where he worked in Finance for 38 years. Shortly after his retirement he became a National Park Service volunteer for Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. He also volunteers/works at the Omaha Visitor’s Center where he greets visitors and provides step on bus tours of Omaha. In addition, he volunteers at the Union Pacific Museum where he gives tours to all age groups.

Kent Schlawin, Volunteer

Kent began volunteering with Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail in 2015. He develops content for social media and assists with communication projects. A graduate of Iowa State University, with a BS in journalism/advertising, he worked in several small advertising agencies before moving into a 29-year career with one of the country’s largest incentive/promotional marketing firms. His newest puzzle is figuring out what retirement is all about. He is a freelance writer and assists his wife in her accounting business, and he volunteers with several organizations.

Rachel Slagle, Volunteer

Rachel’s is Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail’s newest volunteer. She is currently pursuing a History and American Studies Double Major with a Communication Studies Minor at Creighton University. Rachel is from a military family and has attended seven different schools, lived in ten cities, and resided in fourteen houses. She is interested in pursuing a career in civil service. Rachel is involved on Creighton’s campus with Inter-Residence Hall Government and she will be an RA in the Fall of 2016.
As part of the National Park Service Centennial, we joined in the fun of creating meaningful Find Your Park videos to help spread the word and encourage people everywhere define “park” in their own way.

We, of course, hope that visitors will see the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail as their special place and connect to its many stories.

Thank you to Ryan Cooper, GIS Specialist, and Charlotte Murtishaw, former SCA Volunteer Ambassador, for the hard work and creativity they poured into these videos.

Enjoy and feel free to share the videos and utilize them in promoting the Trail!

https://youtu.be/8hh0zNacF5g

https://youtu.be/Y-_f35nPAr8
Calling All 4th graders

As part of President Obama’s commitment to protect our nation’s unique outdoor spaces and ensure that every American has the opportunity to visit and enjoy them, the Obama Administration launched the new Every Kid in a Park program.

Fourth graders nationwide can visit the Every Kid in a Park website to obtain a pass that provides free access to students and their families to all federally managed lands and waters – including national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and marine sanctuaries.

It’s easy! Students log onto the Every Kid in a Park website and complete the interactive activity that the National Park Service has developed in conjunction with Scholastic. Once the student completes the online activity they are able to print out a paper voucher. This paper pass can be used in lieu of the admission fee for federal lands and waters. The paper pass is good for the entire vehicle that the fourth grader arrives in, meaning the pass will cover the entire family, so long as (the fourth grader is present).

This pass is valid from September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016. In addition, if the fourth grader would like to exchange their paper pass for a more durable ‘keepsake’ Fourth Grade Annual Pass, there are numerous locations that will have the durable pass. Visit https://store.usgs.gov/pass to find a location near you.

We encourage you to visit the website - there are resources for parents and educators too. Get out there and enjoy!

www.everykidinapark.gov
Lewis and Clark
Resources

Honoring Tribal Legacies
www.HonoringTribalLegacies.com
A guide for designing curricula for future generations. Rigorous high quality demonstration curricula and two essential volumes that answer the questions: “Why design curriculum Honoring Tribal Legacies” and “How does one design curricululum Honoring Tribal Legacies?”

Tribal Legacy Project
lc-triballegacy.org
A digital archive of tribal perspectives. Recorded inside the Tent of Many Voices at the Corps of Discovery II: 200 Years to the Future traveling exhibit during the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial 2003-2006.

Facebook
www.facebook.com/lewisandclarknht
Connect with unique people, places, and stories on all things Lewis and Clark by joining the Lewis and Clark community on Facebook. View and share pictures, videos, news, and content along the entire Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

Twitter
www.twitter.com/LewisClarkTrail
Want to know what’s happening out on the Trail? Follow us on Twitter to find out about events, programs, and the latest news happening at our National Park Service Visitor Center in Omaha, Nebraska and across the trail.

YouTube
www.youtube.com/lewisandclarknhtnps
Watch videos of the Trail staff and partners in action on our YouTube page.

Interactive Trail Atlas
www.lewisandclarktrailmap.com
Mobile Trail Atlas
lewisandclarktrailmap.mobi
Personalize your exploration using this portal into the geography of the Lewis and Clark Trail. Zoom into your area of interest, choose from a variety of different map layers, display backgrounds of your choice, and create your own custom maps.

Story Maps
nps.maps.arcgis.com/home
Learn about the stories of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail through a combination of interactive maps and rich multimedia content for a unique user experience.
Tracing the courses of the Missouri and Columbia Rivers, the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail stretches through 11 states. The Trail winds over mountains, along rivers, through plains and high deserts, and extends to the wave-lapped Pacific coast. In this diversity of landscapes, visitors to the Trail create their own journeys of discovery.

LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

Phone
402 661-1804 - visitor center
402 661-1814 - administration

E-mail lecl_information@nps.gov
Internet www.nps.gov/lecl

THE TRAIL COMPANION
Superintendent, Mark Weekley
Editor, Karla Sigala

Cover: Covers of all issues of The Trail Companion. Find archived issues at: www.nps.gov/lecl/learn/news/newspaper.htm