

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Lewis and Clark
National Historic Trail

Newsletter - Fall 2009

Who We Are



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, NE 68102

Phone

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

E-mail

lecl_information@nps.gov

Internet

www.nps.gov/lecl

Visitor Center at Trail Headquarters

Summer Hours

Memorial Day through Labor Day

- Monday - Friday, 8 am to 5 pm
- Saturday - Sunday, 9 am to 5 pm

Winter Hours

Labor Day through Memorial Day

- Monday - Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm
- Saturday - Sunday, Closed

Promote Your Events

We want to help promote activities along the Trail such as celebrations, festivals and encampments.

If you would like to be included in our website Schedule of Events, send a detailed summary one month in advance to: jill_hamilton-anderson@nps.gov, with the subject line: Schedule of Events

From the Superintendent

WELCOME TO THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LEWIS and Clark National Historic Trail. We begin with the leadership of the Trail in transition. Former Superintendent Steve Adams accepted a promotion as the Associate Regional Director of Cultural Resources in the Midwest Region of the National Park Service.

By the mailing of this newsletter, my four month detail as Superintendent will have passed, but the administration of the Trail remains in strong hands. In the coming months and years, I hope you have the pleasure of meeting and working with our dedicated, talented National Park Service professionals introduced to you in this newsletter. I know that I will miss working day-in-day-out alongside of them.

In the near future, you will be hearing about the development of a new comprehensive management plan for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Given the complexity and breadth of the Trail, it will take three to five years to prepare, and you will have opportunities to engage with us and to comment on its evolution. Since the end of the Bicentennial, the National Park Service reorganized the Trail office into three divisions—Interpretation and Education, Resources Stewardship, and Administration—plus an American Indian Liaison. The new plan will provide a conceptual framework for administering the Trail in collaboration with our many partners.

I look back at my time with the Trail and am in awe of the many initiatives underway to protect the resources and to share the many stories of Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

fostered before, during, and since the Bicentennial. This newsletter is the first of many ways that we will be disseminating information. But that is not enough. We would also like to hear from *you*. What new projects are underway? What challenges are you facing? What are your needs? Are there any threats that may be impacting the Trail where you live? Are your volunteers and employees doing great things?

In my short time at Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, I've come to understand the complexity in both the geography and the history of the Trail. I have also observed that the best way to accomplish the mission of the



Don Stevens, PhD, Former Acting Superintendent

The articles in the newsletter only hint at the breadth of projects.

Our Interpretation and Education team is traveling westward across the length of the Trail meeting old and new partners. The Resource Stewardship team sponsored a workshop on identifying and measuring impacts on visual resources, is directing a sign inventory and assessment of the Lewis and Clark auto tour route, and is building a multifaceted GIS database for mapping the Trail. Our American Indian Liaison is coordinating the development of an ambitious Lewis and Clark Trail Tribal Legacy website project.

The whole Trail operation is anchored by our Administration team, and their able assistance in supporting the divisions and keeping the many projects going. As I transition from the Trail back to my work in the History and National Register Program of the Midwest Region, I am mindful that the Trail is well poised with the organizational strength and mission of the National Park Service to keep working with our friends in preserving the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

Trail is through frequent and thorough communication with our partners. We want to get to know you and your projects – that is why our phone numbers and email addresses are listed – please touch base with us. We hope that this will be the first of many communications to come.



Nancy Stimson, Current Acting Superintendent

THIS NEWSLETTER IS THE FIRST AFTER several years of dormancy. Since the end of the Bicentennial, the Trail has been in a state of transformation. Through a series of in-depth internal operations evaluations, it was determined that the new direction of Trail administration was to hire a full staff of technical assistance professionals, introduced to you in this newsletter. I encourage all of you to take advantage of the great resources that the Trail office now has to offer. Our technical assistance teams are now in place to serve trail wide needs.

One challenge that we face is in communicating with you, the many partners and friends that were

Little Known Facts

about the Lewis and Clark Expedition

THE “LEWIS AND HOOKE EXPEDITION” doesn’t sound quite right does it? However, that pairing could have constituted the history-making partnership that carried out President Thomas Jefferson’s vision of an American-led transcontinental expedition in the first decade of the 19th century.

Shortly after Meriwether Lewis was given command of the president’s bold venture and preparations were moving forward with all deliberate speed, he recommended that a second military officer accompany the band of explorers in case some

misfortune led to his death or incapacitation. Jefferson agreed. Lewis already had someone in mind. In an oft-quoted letter, he invited his former commanding officer, William Clark of Kentucky, to become his co-commander; one who would share equally in the duties and responsibilities of leading the expedition and in the satisfactions and rewards upon its successful completion.

As a precaution, however, while awaiting Clark’s reply, Lewis issued a contingent invitation to Lieutenant Moses Hooke, a 26-year old soldier

with whom he had served and held in high regard. Hooke was stationed at a nearby army post in Pittsburgh and could be ready to join the expedition on short notice should Clark choose to decline Lewis’s invitation to fame and glory.

Thus, if Clark had found the opportunity unappealing and declined it, future generations of historians would have been researching and writing about the “Lewis and Hooke Expedition!”

by Dr. H. Carl Camp

Dr. Carl Camp is a retired professor from the University of Nebraska, Omaha. He is a member of the Mouth of the Platte chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. Dr. Camp is also a member of the editorial review board for “We Proceeded On”, the quarterly journal published by the Foundation. He has been volunteering at the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail headquarters for 8 years. Look for more “Little Known Facts” in future issues of this newsletter and on our website, www.nps.gov/lecl.

Very Important People



Volunteering is an American tradition that has made an immeasurable contribution to communities, organizations, and individuals throughout the country. Today's volunteers are active, dynamic, creative

individuals who possess the skills, desire, patience, and time to accomplish a wide variety of tasks.

Volunteers-In-Parks are Very Important People (VIPs)! In Fiscal Year 2005, 137,000 volunteers donated 5.2 million hours to your national parks at a value of \$91.2 million.

VIPs come from all over the world to help preserve and protect America's natural and cultural heritage for the enjoyment of this and future generations.

Volunteers of all ages give of their time and expertise to help achieve the National Park Service mission.

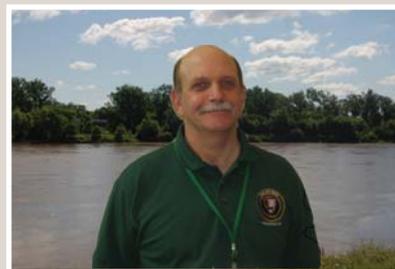
We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Headquarter's VIPs named to the right. Their contributions are directly attributed to our success in meeting our mission goals. Thank you for all of your hard work!



Don Shippy



Carl H. Camp



Donn Galli



Atianna Rager



Carolyn K. Fiscus



Ebony Jordan-Woods

Trail Stewardship

AS LEWIS AND CLARK ENTHUSIASTS, we all hope to preserve the Trail unimpaired for our children and grandchildren. Preserving artifacts from the Expedition and the natural environment they passed through will give future generations the opportunity to experience history and understand the story of this incredible journey. However, nothing is constant but change.

The Expedition helped open up the west for development and there continue to be tremendous development pressures all along the Trail.

I believe the biggest pressure the Trail faces right now is from energy development. The push to quickly develop and distribute both renewable and non-renewable energy in the United States has resulted in a flood of proposals for wind turbines, transmission lines, hydro power plants, natural gas terminals, pipelines, etc.

Our office keeps busy reviewing and commenting on numerous energy proposals that may impact the Trail. Some of the larger energy project proposals that we have been involved with this year are: the proposed Highwood Generating Station near Great Falls, two proposed liquefied natural gas terminals on the Columbia River, several wind farms in the state of Washington, thousands of proposed hydrokinetic projects on the Missouri River from Saint Louis to Kansas City, and a proposed oil refinery near Spirit Mound in South Dakota. Currently, these proposals remain on our watch list as several of them have received varying levels of approval and none have yet been constructed.

We know that there are proposals along the Trail that we are unaware of, or learn of too late to attempt to impact. We also know that there is a better chance of influencing project decision makers when more people

get involved and voice their opinions in support of Trail resources protection. This is where we need your help. If you become aware of a proposal that may threaten or help the Trail, please alert me and your local Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation chapter. I coordinate project reviews and responses for the Lewis and Clark Trail office and can be reached at denise_nelson@nps.gov or 402-661-1812.

Given the sheer length of the Trail and the varying levels of existing development along it, it is clear that developments will continue to occur. There will be some give and take and a balance must be struck. With your support, we can raise awareness of the incredible resources of the Trail and ensure that development is compatible with Trail protection. I look forward to working with all of you toward this goal.

*Denise Nelson,
Environmental Protection Specialist*

The Trailhead

WELCOME TO THE Trailhead Section of the Lewis and Clark Newsletter. People might not immediately think of recreation when discussing the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, but recreation on an historic

trail is a great way to learn and become stewards of the Trail.

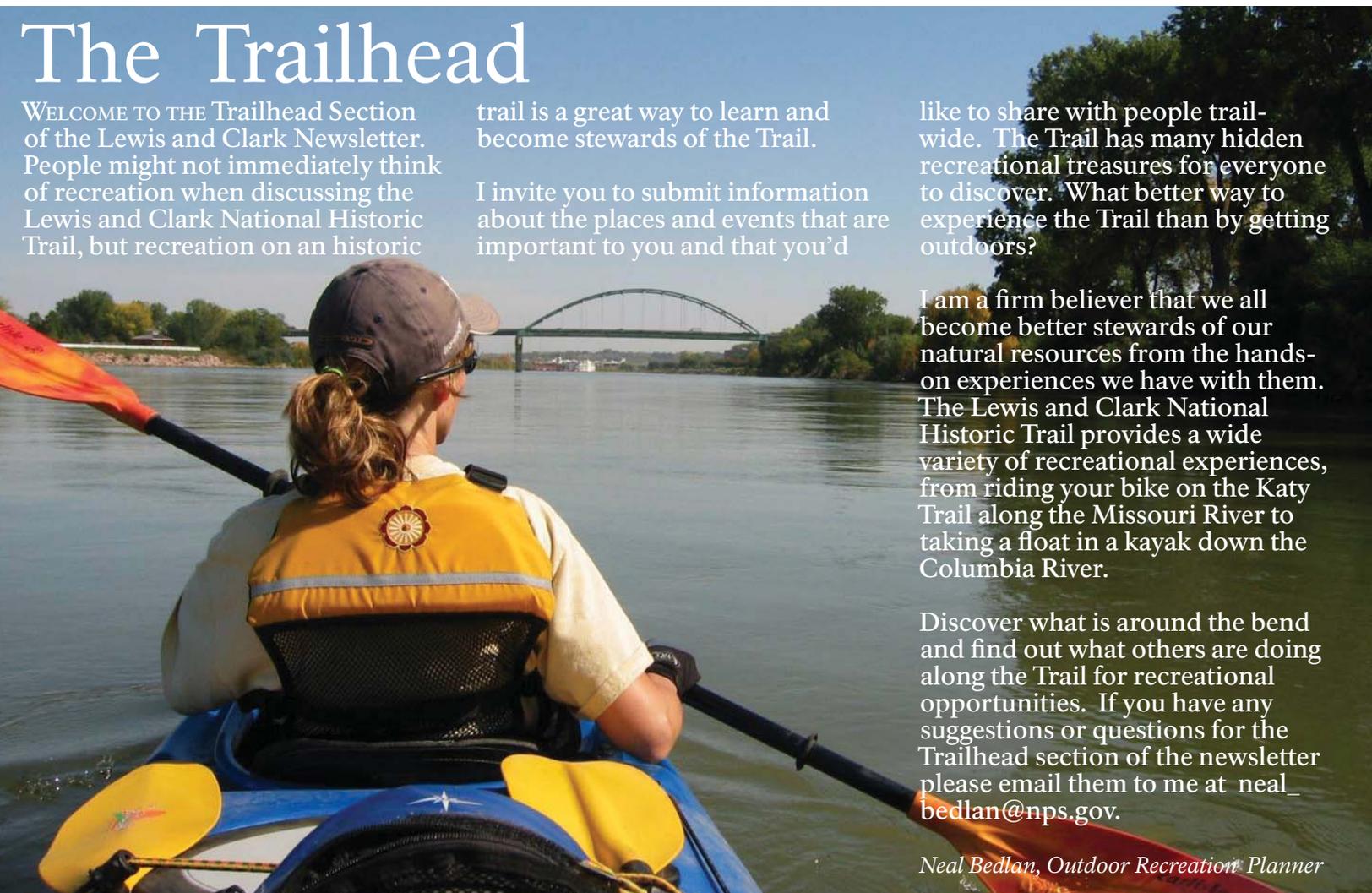
I invite you to submit information about the places and events that are important to you and that you'd

like to share with people trail-wide. The Trail has many hidden recreational treasures for everyone to discover. What better way to experience the Trail than by getting outdoors?

I am a firm believer that we all become better stewards of our natural resources from the hands-on experiences we have with them. The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail provides a wide variety of recreational experiences, from riding your bike on the Katy Trail along the Missouri River to taking a float in a kayak down the Columbia River.

Discover what is around the bend and find out what others are doing along the Trail for recreational opportunities. If you have any suggestions or questions for the Trailhead section of the newsletter please email them to me at neal_bedlan@nps.gov.

Neal Bedlan, Outdoor Recreation Planner



Partners in Focus

Volunteers in Action

KAW POINT PARK IS THE NAME GIVEN for the point where the Kansas and Missouri rivers meet in Kansas City, Kansas. The area is now part of an urban landscape surrounded by industry and development. Many people who live in the area didn't always know the importance of the site. That has all changed thanks to the help of the Friends of Kaw Point Park, Inc., a volunteer-led non-profit organization created to fund and construct the Lewis & Clark Historic Park at Kaw Point and to interpret the Lewis & Clark Expedition in Wyandotte County, Kansas.

The Friends of Kaw Point Park have transformed an area that was once a trash dump into a place where people can go for fun and entertainment.

Currently, volunteers are busy with the construction of an outdoor venue, located in a serene location overlooking the confluence of the two rivers. This addition to the already well-developed Kaw Point Park will seat up to 500 people and is designed for historical reenactments, educational and environmental seminars, and as an outdoor amphitheatre.

It is being completed with full donation support, from the donated stones and equipment, electrical work,



Kaw Point Park volunteers taking a break after a long day of work. From left; Jim Stanley, Jeff Koenits, Mike Calwell, Chuck Scott, and Volunteer Don.

to the thousands of volunteer labor hours, all estimated at over \$250,000!

This fall on October 2, 3, and 4, the theater will open for its first production entitled *Grinders Stand, A Tragedy of Blood*, by Oakley Hall III. The play delves into the mysterious death of explorer Meriwether Lewis, leader of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The event will draw people from the surrounding area to enjoy the new addition to the city and

the park. For more information about the park visit www.lewisandclarkwyco.org.

Congratulations to all the volunteers of Kaw Point Park for your hard work and dedication. You are a prime example of what can be accomplished through the power of cooperation and volunteerism.

*Nichole McHenry,
Volunteer Program Manager*



Is your volunteer organization doing great things on the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail? Let us know about it - you may be featured in an upcoming newsletter or website. Send your photos and project details to: nichole_mchenry@nps.gov

Challenge Cost Share

FIRST I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY gratitude for all the hard work being done by our project partners along the Trail. Since my start at the trail office last October, I have been so impressed with the projects that continue to be completed. It has been such a joy getting to know such a dedicated group of talented people.

Please know that the Lewis and Clark NHT Challenge Cost Share (CCS) Program is very much alive though at a significantly reduced rate than in past years. We continue to receive good project proposals and project work is still being carried out along the trail.

This 2009 fiscal year, we have awarded \$60,000 in project funding to 12 projects out of the 24 submitted proposals.

As you can see our funding levels currently are allowing only half of our submitted proposals to be granted so the process is very competitive. We do look forward to receiving your well

developed proposals and proceeding with ongoing and future CCS projects.

In addition to our continued efforts to maintain the CCS program we at the Trail office are working on improvements to the CCS process.

We are developing processes that will allow for longer open application periods, better defined criteria, and improved electronic distribution of materials. As part of this effort we have begun accepting electronic and fax submissions of CCS paperwork and are posting our grant opportunities at Grants.Gov, the federally recognized assistance advertisement site. We encourage all interested parties to periodically check for funding opportunities through this and our Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Website (www.nps.gov/lecl).

If you have recently been awarded a CCS grant you may be wondering what steps still need to be taken. A letter detailing the funding amount, financial contact, and project technical

contact will guide you to individualized points of contact for questions. Your organization must be registered on the Central Contractor Registry (www.ccr.gov) in order for funds to be distributed. A federal form 424 which officially requests project funding must be submitted and a statement of work will be generated from your project proposal. Once awarded, you will be responsible for completing periodic progress reports as well as a final accomplishment report. These reports are required for billing and also to keep us informed of your excellent work as you get underway. Sounds like a lot of work? Unfortunately it is. However, we have talented staff here at the Trail office who are ready and willing to assist you in this process and help guide us to great things. If you have questions about an existing project or would like to discuss an upcoming project and would like guidance in development of a proposal, please check our website or this newsletter for a list of staff contacts.

*Lee Smith,
Administrative Officer*

Tribal Legacy Project

I invite you to come along the trail in two different ways... One is the view from the keel boat as it goes up the river as it did 200 years ago. But I also ask you to step off that keelboat and be in the villages of the American Indian Tribes that Lewis and Clark encountered. We are in danger, I believe, of losing some of those cultures. ...Let's get together with the spirits of Lewis and Clark, and don't forget Sacagawea, York the slave and the others. I challenge you to come along with us as we travel this trail...to not let this vision die once we reach the end of the Bicentennial in 2006. - Gerard Baker, 2003

With these words the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail's *Corps of Discovery II; 200 Years to the Future* set out to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the historic Lewis and Clark Expedition. Through *Corps II* and its "Tent of Many Voices" more than 400 individuals, representing approximately 50 Tribes whose homelands were once along the path now known as the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, were captured on video to be shared with future generations.

The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Tribal Legacy Project is part of the National Park Service's effort to build on the themes and goals of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial commemoration with a focus on Native people along this historic trail.

The intent of this project is to develop educational resources to help teachers integrate Native American culture and history across their curriculum. This resource will serve both elementary and secondary grades as well as educational programs in state and national parks, museums and cultural centers.

While the Lewis and Clark commemoration opened the door to this project, the themes will not be bound by the subject of Lewis and Clark. The project will provide a unique opportunity for American Indians to educate others about American Indians, and promote respect for Native cultures and languages, the environment, and the future.



The unique and extensive video interviews and presentations captured will serve as the framework from which this legacy will be sustained. Drawing upon these and other important primary resources, a web based digital collection will be accessible for individual or classroom use, along with supplements to guide effective application.

Look for further updates in future issues of this newsletter.

*Dick Basch,
American Indian Liaison*

Integrated Resources Stewardship Technical Team



Dan Wiley, Chief - Integrated Resources Stewardship
Coordination of resource-based programs and projects

What a thrill to be able to positively impact the amazing array of natural, cultural and recreational resources that comprise the Trail. I believe in networks and partnerships based on common missions. I have been an environmental advocate since childhood and my adult life has been devoted to the understanding, conservation and enjoyment of natural ecosystems.

402-661-1830
dan_wiley@nps.gov



Denise Nelson, Environmental Protection Specialist
Resource protection, NEPA & NHPA compliance; Planning, Environment & Public Site (PEPC)

My fascination with both the science and beauty of the natural world led me to a career in environmental compliance. I joined the Trail just last year and am thrilled to be involved the National Park Service's mission to protect not just the natural world, but also our cultural heritage. The Trail offers a unique opportunity to reach out across cultures, ecosystems, and jurisdictional lines to find out (and be constantly reminded of) just how interconnected we all are.

402-661-1812
denise_nelson@nps.gov



Neal Bedlan, Recreational Resource Specialist
Recreation opportunities and access, development of water trails, safety

I am a firm believer that we all become better stewards of our natural resources from the hands-on experiences we have with them.

402-661-1816
neal_bedlan@nps.gov



Suzanne Gucciardo, PhD, Natural Resources Specialist
Plant and animal communities; rare, threatened and endangered species; natural viewsheds

I collaborate with other Integrated Resources Stewardship staff on environmental review of activities which may potentially affect Trail resources including representing NPS and Trail interests in natural resource issues.

402-661-1874
suzanne_gucciardo@nps.gov



Ryan Cooper, Geographer/Global Information Systems Specialist
Human land use, mapping, landscape modeling, project and compliance GIS support

Lewis and Clark made unparalleled contributions to geographic knowledge during the expedition of the Corps of Discovery. I believe using the wealth of information they collected and the maps they produced in conjunction with modern geospatial technologies, there are many discoveries yet to be made.

402-661-1868
ryan_cooper@nps.gov



Andrew Veech, PhD, Cultural Resources Specialist
Archeology, cultural resources protection and preservation, National Historic Landmarks

The Lewis and Clark Trail traverses the heart of Native North America. An incredible array of diverse Native American societies inhabited the trans-Mississippi American West at the time of the Corps of Discovery Expedition, and those societies remain alive and vibrant today. As the Trail's archeologist and anthropologist, I am committed to collaborating with Native American tribes, assisting them in the rediscovery and preservation of their own unique cultural histories.

402-661-1820
andrew_veech@nps.gov

Interpretation, Education, and Volunteer Technical Team



Carol McBryant, Chief - Interpretation, Education, and Volunteer Services Management, partnerships, planning, and visitor services coordination

The lessons of our nation are embedded in our history and in our ability to care for the environment. It is our job to highlight the many perspectives of the Lewis and Clark story so we may all move forward in unity with a true understanding of our nation's history and how it impacts who we are as a people.

402-661-1818
carol_mcbryant@nps.gov



Karla Sigala, Interpretive Specialist
Interpretive media, design, writing, training

The beauty of the National Park Service is that there is a little something for everyone. America's heritage is deeply rooted in the landscapes and the people that the Expedition encountered. We can all relate to the perseverance, strength, hardships and sense of wonder that the Corps of Discovery experienced. It is up to all of us to find that something special that we can relate to and pass it on.

402-661-1826
karla_sigala@nps.gov



Jill Hamilton-Anderson, Education Specialist

Education programming; curricula review, alignment and assessment, teacher training/workshop coordination

Learning the way we learn has always been a fascination for me and that fascination led me into the education field. I have taught in the outdoor classroom, teaching outdoor skills and team building, I have taught classroom science, social studies, and math; and I have taught in parks. I really have been spoiled.

402-661-1824
jill_hamilton-anderson@nps.gov



Nichole McHenry, Volunteer Program Manager

Volunteer recruitment, management, and training

I get energy and satisfaction from working with volunteers. I value the skills, enthusiasm, real-life experiences, and the individual contributions they bring to the NPS. I look forward to getting out along the trail to meet the volunteers who share the stories of the journey of Lewis and Clark and keep their stories alive and flowing—like the waters traveled so long ago.

402-661-1810
nichole_mchenry@nps.gov

American Indian Liaison



Dick Basch, American Indian Liaison

Tribal Relations, Tribal Resources & Contacts, Cultural Diversity

Over the last six years, I have said to many friends, family, coworkers and partners of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail that, "I am very lucky." There aren't many things better than bringing neighbors together to learn about each other and appreciate each other. During the Bicentennial I worked closely with Corps II, which resulted in more than 400 individual tribal members coming to the Tent of Many Voices to share their history, culture and dreams for the future. It is rewarding for all of us to get to know each other as individuals, with very similar dreams.

503-861-4404
richard_basch@nps.gov

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Administration/Challenge Cost Share



Lee Smith, Administrative Officer

Challenge Cost Share, Finance, Contracting & Agreements

We build greatness through partnerships. The Golden Gate Bridge was not built in a single day, nor by a single person, but rather by the cooperative efforts of many people over time that brought vision to fruition.

402-661-1808
lee_smith@nps.gov



Ronni Whitmer, Trail Secretary

I am fascinated by the mission we work toward as we administer this legendary historic trail. My work is behind the scenes as I support trail management. Yet, I am always delighted and find new energy when I speak to trail partners...the backbone of the trail's existence. In fact, as you look at the clock in your office, know that you can usually reach me late in the day. Call me with questions or a with your need to reach any other staff member. I'd love to hear from you.

402-661-1814
ronni_whitmer@nps.gov



Dennis Burmeister, Administrative Technician

I am excited about my new position. Having transferred from the Department of Defense, I see many similarities. Our staff is dedicated to the preservation of our heritage. As our military defends this country, the Lewis and Clark Trail personnel are also defenders of American history. I am proud to have been given the opportunity to serve alongside those who are working hard to ensure our country's heritage remains intact, especially for those wanting to see, feel, and experience the beauty of America, a country we live in and fight for every day.

402-661-1828
dennis_burmeister@nps.gov

Headquarters Visitor Center



Lisa Griebel, Park Ranger

Visitor Center lead, brochures, bookstore management, interpretive programming

I enjoy my career with the National Park Service. Being a Park Ranger allows me to share the stories of America. At Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, I get to share the stories of the Expedition. It is rewarding to help others learn about our past and to protect our future.

402-661-1834
lisa_griebel@nps.gov



Rachel Brockway, Park Guide (STEP)

Visitor Center, interpretive programs, information requests

Raising three kids, attending college full time, and working here has been an exhausting but fun journey! I truly do enjoy working with visitors who are interested in the Lewis & Clark story.

402-661-1822
rachel_brockway@nps.gov



Nicholas Murray, Park Ranger (SCEP)

Visitor Center, interpretive programs, information requests, bookstore

I am a Master of Business Administration student at the University of Phoenix. Upon graduation I hope to continue working with The National Park Service and help maintain the very places that make all our nation's people proud to be a part of "America the Beautiful."

402-661-1804
nicholas_m_murray@nps.gov



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha NE 68102

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