

Planned activities for 2006 youth event

The National Guard's 2006 Lewis and Clark Youth Rendezvous essay contest is an opportunity for 10 students from each state and U.S. territory to participate in a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Students who will be high school juniors or seniors by August 2006, can earn a free trip to North Dakota by writing a Lewis and Clark focused-essay. Students may submit essay applications online or request information by mail.

Through multiple activities and events, selected students will follow the Lewis and Clark trail, experience American Indian culture of yesterday and discover military history first hand. The scheduled events will provide a unique educational opportunity for everyone involved. Learn more about planned events, activities, locations and submitting an essay online by visiting (www.lcyouthrendezvous.com).

To receive an application by mail, send requests to Lewis and Clark Youth Rendezvous, P.O. Box 5511, Bismarck, ND 58506-5511.

The 2006 Lewis and Clark Youth Rendezvous will include one day, Aug. 13, for student arrival in North Dakota. Three days of activities, Aug. 14-16, will take place at several locations in western North Dakota. Groups will visit the sites on a round-robin basis. One day, Aug. 17, will be devoted to the opening of the Lewis and Clark Signature event in New Town, and finally students and their escorts will travel home on Aug. 18.

During their stay, the students will visit Fort Abraham Lincoln with activities intended to provide information about the Lewis and Clark Expedition in the area of the nearby On-A-Slant Indian Village, the history of that village and the unique history of the Cavalry and the Custer Expedition. Lewis and Clark and Sakakawea re-enactors will provide students a glimpse of the expedition era which happened about 60 years prior to Dakota Territory forming. Included will be tours of the barracks, stables, earthlodges and Missouri River. Students will come face to face with 1870s soldiers and will learn about Army life now and then. Indian gardening, tool making and clothing production will also be highlighted.

Washburn, Knife River Indian Villages and Cross Ranch State Park will give the students a cultural and historic aspect of the expedition and provide specific insight into American Indian culture. Activities include expedition history at the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in the community of Washburn, tours of Fort Mandan and the surrounding trails, a powwow, native plant and animal interpretations at Cross Ranch as well as what everyday life was like in the Knife River Indian Villages. All attendees will arrive at varied times at Fort Mandan via the Missouri River.

Finally, the youth will all rendezvous at the opening of the 2006 Lewis and Clark Signature Event. Time will be set aside for hands on participation in cultural activities. Interpreters and facilitators will be coordinated by the National Guard to ensure the students are able to participate in the activities.



Photo by Chief Warrant Officer Kiel Skager, Joint Force Headquarters
The St. Louis Corps of Discovery II re-enactors portray Lewis and Clark period Soldiers.



Photo by Chief Warrant Officer Kiel Skager, Joint Force Headquarters
Lewis and Clark re-enactors guide a replica keelboat along the Missouri River.



Photo by Sgt. Ann Knudson, Joint Force Headquarters
In North Dakota, American Indian culture and heritage is important and is often seen in various powwows that take place accross the state.

Rendezvous offers unique adventure

By Sgt. 1st Class Marvin Baker,
1-129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

More than 500 high school students from across the country will get a chance next year to experience what Lewis and Clark did 200 years ago as they traveled through what is now North Dakota. A number of agencies spearheaded by the North Dakota National Guard will work together to coordinate numerous activities in an event titled Lewis and Clark Youth Rendezvous in August 2006. The rendezvous is expected to give 540 students bonafide lessons in American history and American Indian culture described in the journals of the early 19th century explorers.

The lessons, according to Lewis and Clark Project Officer Maj. Davina French, will retrace the steps Captains Meriweather Lewis and William Clark took on their Corps of Discovery across the Louisiana Purchase including the Missouri River Basin that disects North Dakota.

"This is going to be living history like you've never seen it," French said. "It will be a great way to experience a trip across North Dakota almost exactly the way Lewis and Clark saw it."

According to French, students will experience military forts that were established along the trail, American Indian culture and how Lewis and Clark perceived it, living history lessons in re-enactments as well as how similar and different the modern military is from the Army with which Lewis and Clark were affiliated.

"Those guys took great notes," French said. "They were very meticulous in writing about their journey. They were doing it to report to President Jefferson, but those journals have been wonderful reference materials and have certainly helped the North Dakota Lewis and Clark planners."

French added the journals made specific references to animals, the American Indian vil-lages along the Missouri River, land navigation techniques, astronomical data, how the men lived day to day and even winter weather conditions.

"This is going to be living history like you've never seen it."

**Maj. Davina French,
Lewis and Clark
Project Officer**



Photo by Dawn Charging, North Dakota Tourism

North Dakota's rivers offer a challenge to beginners and experienced paddlers alike. Paddlers today enjoy the same beautiful landscapes and views as Lewis and Clark did 200 years ago.

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Beautiful scenery abounds in North Dakota, and visitors take it all in by canoeing, hiking and biking on trails.

Lewis and Clark first met Sakakawea while they traveled through what is now North Dakota. Sakakawea helped the expedition as an interpreter, guide and a symbol of peace to all those who encountered the group of explorers.

Essay contest winners will experience living history, adventure in North Dakota

Continued from page 1

Students will be guided by expert interpreters and military

leaders through interactive cultural and historical experiences. The adventure will showcase daily activities of the original Lewis and Clark expedition that will create an unforgettable journey.

About 200 National Guard personnel from across the state will be involved in the Youth Rendezvous, according to French. They will assist in a myriad of tasks that French said will most certainly make the total event a success.

"These kids are going to learn everything about Lewis and Clark, from navigating a river to eating tart berries on the prairie," French said. "And we'll be there every step of the way."

Greg Wilz, who drew up the original concept of the Youth Rendezvous, serves as a North Dakota National Guard adviser for the planning of the event. He said the students will fly into North Dakota and be split into groups.

Wilz said squad, platoon, company and battalion elements of students and their escorts will be formulated.

"They will roll into North Dakota and be married into military (type) units when they get off the plane," Wilz said. "Each platoon element will get an American Indian guide."

Lewis and Clark met Sakakawea in North Dakota.

She was the young Shoshone woman who became an invaluable guide to Lewis and Clark and they way Wilz described it, each platoon-sized group, about 60 students, will each be assigned a guide. He is hoping that each guide will be an American Indian female, to better depict the authenticity that Lewis and Clark experienced with Sakakawea.

"We want to show them the history of the military. We want to show them then and now," Wilz said. "The intent here is for young people to experience what Lewis and Clark did."

George Donnelly was in Bismarck in October 2004 for the state's first Signature Event and he is looking forward to the 2006 Signature Event in New Town, N.D., that will include the Youth Rendezvous.

Donnelly, a consultant to National Guard Bureau for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, suggested the education the students will receive during this event will last a lifetime, especially given the fact that students will be interacting with members of the Mandan, Arikara and Hidatsa tribes that are present-day combined and called the Three Affiliated Tribes.

"It's really neat to see the educational aspect as the school kids come through," Donnelly said. "The Native American interaction is critical. The expedition wouldn't have happened without them."

Donnelly added he was really impressed in 2004 in Bismarck when he saw several Indian earthlodge replicas and how the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara interacted with Lewis and Clark.

But during this Lewis and Clark Youth Rendezvous, students will also see and understand what 200 years hasn't changed. Nature will certainly be one of the highlights and North Dakota Tourism and the National Guard will work together to give students a glimpse of what Lewis and Clark saw on their three-year trek that kept them in North Dakota for more than six months.

That will include several things that many urban residents don't often get a chance to see, such as a fabulous night sky on the prairie, the Aurora Borealis, plants and animals native to the northern Great Plains and rugged terrain that still exists today.

Continued on next page



Photo by Dawn Charging, North Dakota Tourism



Photo by Sgt. Ann Knudson, Joint Force Headquarters

To apply, visit www.lcyouthrendezvous.com



Photo by Sgt. Ann Knudson, Joint Force Headquarters
Earthlodges were the dwellings Mandan tribes native to North Dakota used as homes when Lewis and Clark traveled through the area.

Youth Rendezvous to highlight heritage

Continued from page 2

The Youth Rendezvous will also include interpretations of how Lewis and Clark spent a winter near present-day Washburn, N.D., including detailed descriptions of the bitter cold they experienced in January 1805.

For the National Guard, one of the major thrusts for the Youth Rendezvous will be the Signature Event that will be held in New Town on the very same river bank that Lewis and Clark came upon 89 years before North Dakota existed as a state.

Tracy Potter believes the New Town event can be as successful as last year’s Signature Event in Bismarck that brought upward of 50,000 visitors.

Potter, the executive director of the Fort Lincoln Foundation, talked about the social, educational and even financial success of Bismarck’s 2004 event and he expects New Town will be similar.

According to Wilz, the students will help write history as they learn about North Dakota’s past. “The kids will take part in the opening ceremony and be part of the Native culture that will include cultural meals, tribal games and recreations,” Wilz said. “We want to show them the history.”

French is encouraging high school students from across the country to spend some time on writing their essays. She said the National Guard has taken a lot of time to plan this event so there is no doubt it will be worthwhile.

“If you have a slightest inkling of curiosity about this period in American history, this is for you,” French said. “You’ll see North Dakota and do things here that you couldn’t have imagined.”



Photo by Rebecca Pedersen, North Dakota Tourism
Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park, located south of Mandan, N.D., features General George Custer and his wife, Libby’s, home reconstructed to its 1876 appearance.



Photo by Sgt. Ann Knudson, Joint Force Headquarters
The 2006 Youth Rendezvous will highlight military history and modern-day military training.



Photo by Sgt. Ann Knudson, Joint Force Headquarters
American Indian powwows are a chance to get together for dancing, singing and visiting.



Photo by Sgt. Ann Knudson, Joint Force Headquarters
Hunting played an important role during the expedition.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Billie Jo Lorus, Joint Force Headquarters

A group of re-enactors is repeating Lewis and Clark's expedition. Two of the re-enactors — Peyton "Bud" Clark of Dearborn, Mich., and Charles Clark, of St. Louis — are descendants of William Clark. Bob Anderson of Maryville, Ohio, and his grandson, Josh Loftis, are direct descendants of George Shannon, the youngest member of the original expedition. The re-enactors wear clothes typical of the time and lifestyle of the expedition member they represent, and have memorized a good deal of information about the period. They make the original stops, do some of the same hikes - in some cases, as long as 20 miles - and have hunted buffalo. They've slept on the keelboat, eaten meals cooked over a fire, and been troubled by ticks.

They do have a few modern conveniences, such as cell phones. They also have engines on their boats, in order to be on time for their many scheduled appearances. The new expedition traced the eastern part of Lewis and Clark's route in 2003 and traveled from Missouri to North Dakota in 2004. They set out from North Dakota for the Pacific in 2005, and will retrace their steps from Oregon back to St. Louis in 2006.



Photo by Lewis and Clark Fort Mandan Foundation



Photo by Mike Frohlich, State Historical Society of North Dakota

The 2006 Lewis and Clark Youth Rendezvous will be held in western North Dakota and high school students selected to take part, will spend one day in New Town, N.D., during the opening of the 2006 Lewis and Clark Signature Event. New Town is a community of about 1,500 people and serves as the principal city on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. It is located 80 miles southwest of Minot and 50 miles northeast of Watford City. New Town is situated above the banks of the Missouri River and is so named because it is culmination of the three communities of Sanish, Elbowoods and Van Hook, that were displaced when Garrison Dam was built in the early 1950s.

Lewis and Cla



Photo by North Dakota Game and Fish

The Corps of Discovery camped near what is now Fort Abraham Lincoln, the presence of a deserted Mandan Indian village. This village, named Oahe, was built around 1750, but was devastated by a smallpox epidemic and attacks from other tribes. The Lewis and Clark expedition found them and wintered with them. Five earthlodges have been reconstructed, along with a barracks, granary, commissary, stable and blockhouse. The site is now a national historic site. The site contains a replica of the house built by the railroad workers and settlements. The site contains a replica of the house built by the railroad workers and settlements. The site contains a replica of the house built by the railroad workers and settlements.



ark Youth Rendezvous

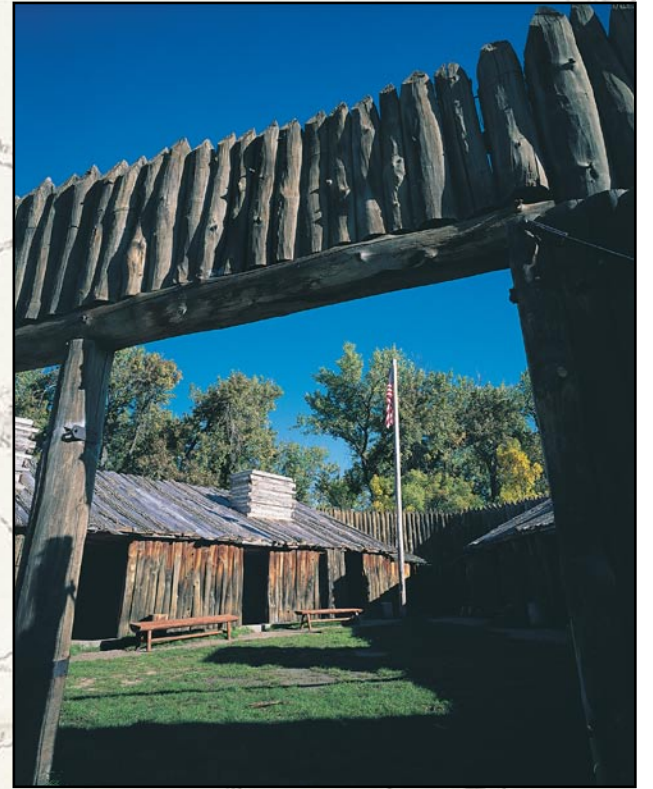
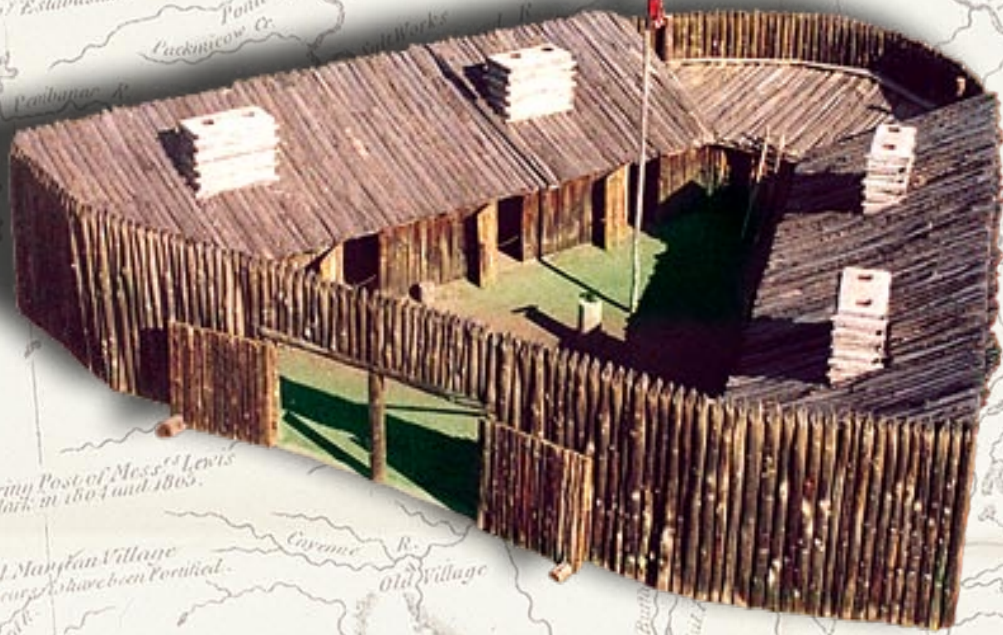


Photo by Lewis and Clark Fort Mandan Foundation

In State Park, south of Mandan, N.D., on Oct. 20, 1804. Clark noted On-A-Slant Village for its sloping site, was occupied from 1650 other tribes. The tribe moved up to the Knife River area, where the been reconstructed, and visitors may go inside. The park also contains uses from Fort Abraham Lincoln, built 68 years later to protect se built for Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer, who arrived in 1873 ontana, where he and 265 others were killed by Sioux and Cheyenne available, and re-enactors dress in wool uniforms, fire cannons, g.



Photo by Jason Lindsey, North Dakota Tourism

The Lewis and Clark Expedition arrived at the Mandan-Hidatsa Indian villages on the Upper Missouri River on October 25, 1804. They found the Mandan people very hospitable and decided to remain at this wintering site until the spring thaw when they would resume their up-river journey. As it turned out, Fort Mandan was occupied longer than any of the three winter posts used by the expedition. At Fort Mandan Lewis and Clark met Sakakawea, the Indian woman who would be essential to the success of the expedition. For more than five months, Fort Mandan was the site of considerable activity. During this time, preparations were made to head west to the Pacific Ocean. Reconstructed Fort Mandan rests in the riparian forests of the Missouri River. The refurbished rooms of this full size replica depict the equipage of the Lewis & Clark Expedition and provide the realistic setting for a grand learning experience. On-site interpreters provide programs and year-round tours of Lewis & Clark's 1804-1805 wintering post. In the same vicinity is the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center, which provides an overview of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, with special emphasis on the time spent at Fort Mandan during the winter of 1804- 1805. The displays include Native American artifacts and an authentic wood canoe carved from the trunk of a large cottonwood tree demonstrates the winter preparations the Expedition made while at Fort Mandan. The North Dakota Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center and Fort Mandan provide a diverse and unique setting for an interpretive experience of culture and history.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Billie Jo Lorius, Joint Force Headquarters

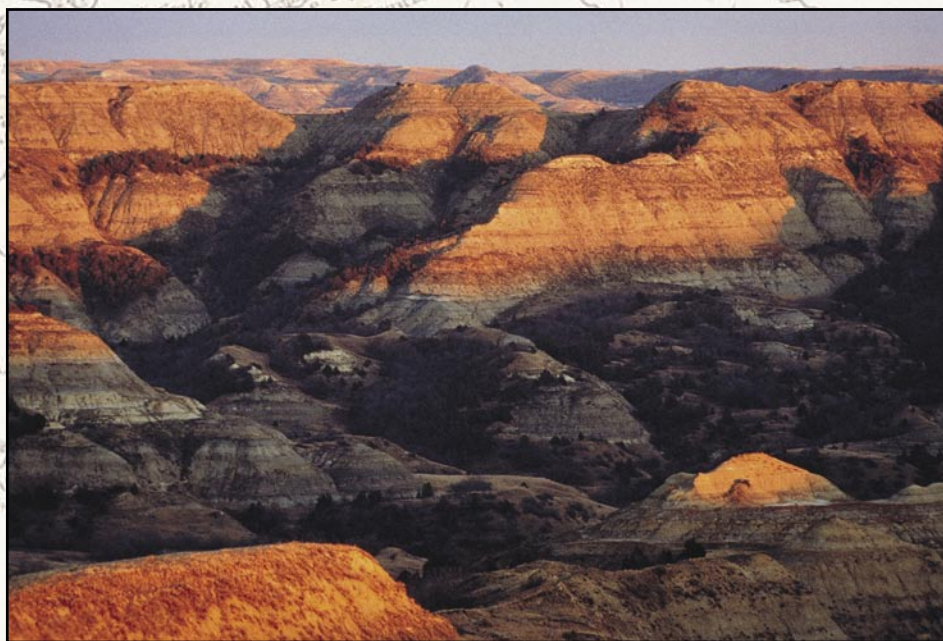


Photo by Bruce Wendt, North Dakota Tourism

Theodore Roosevelt National Park exemplifies the vast landscape that is unique to North Dakota. Roosevelt arrived to hunt buffalo in 1883 and stayed to raise cattle. He said, "I never would have been President if it had not been for my experiences in North Dakota." Medora is located in the park and its attractions include the Medora Musical, Pitchfork Fondue, the Doll House and the Chateau de Mores. Hiking, camping, bicycling and horseback rides are available, and the Bully Pulpit Golf Course is nationally ranked.



Photo by Sgt. Ann Knudson, Joint Force Headquarters

The hoop dance is one American Indian dance that highlights culture and heritage.



Photo by Sgt. Ann Knudson, Joint Force Headquarters

The White Shield Drum Group performs unique American Indian music inside an earthlodge.



Photo by Chief Warrant Officer Kiel Skager, Joint Force Headquarters

Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery transported supplies from St. Louis to Fort Mandan on keelboat.



Photo by Maj. Davina French, Joint Force Headquarters

Step back in time to the frontier days at Fort Abraham Lincoln south of Mandan, N.D. The fort was home to General George Armstrong Custer and the 7th Cavalry.

National Guard poised to showcase a real Lewis and Clark adventure

*By Sgt. 1st Class Marvin Baker,
1-129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment*

North Dakota was as successful in its first Lewis and Clark Signature Event in 2004 as the explorers were when they charted a course from St. Louis in 1804, according to officials close to the event.

And with a second Signature Event and the Youth Rendezvous coming up in 2006 in New Town, N.D., the North Dakota National Guard is poised to showcase the state to more than 500 high school students who will be winning trips to the state during the 200th anniversary of the expedition.

Col. (ret.) Terry Robinson came up with the original concept of the Youth Rendezvous. Col. (ret.) Greg Wilz is the person responsible for writing a plan, pursuing it and securing the 2006 Lewis and Clark Youth Rendezvous in North Dakota, and he also serves as an adviser to the Lewis and Clark planning group.

"Lewis and Clark started picking up and we put a plan together," Wilz said. "It was a detailed plan for those partaking in the youth event and learning about military life. The general officers in charge loved it."

Wilz said the 2004 Signature Event in Bismarck was a huge success because it attracted more people than other Signature Events that have taken place along the Lewis and Clark Trail.

"We have created an opportunity to exceed what happened at the University of Mary," Wilz said of North Dakota's first Signature Event, held in Bismarck in October 2004. "Part of what will take place in New Town is already formulated."

Tracy Potter is the executive director of the Fort Abraham Lincoln Foundation and helped plan the first Signature Event.

He said the National Guard was very organized in its approach to working with his historical agency and guaranteeing the event would not disappoint the visitors.

"They gave us their assistance in building four earthlodges," Potter said. "And they were part of parking control. Boy, was that ever necessary."

The building of the earthlodges was a joint effort between the Fort Abraham Lincoln Foundation and the North Dakota National Guard Innovative Readiness Training, essentially a team of soldiers and civilians building the lodges together.

The 10-day event at the end of October last year drew 50,000 people from across the nation, as well as North Dakota Gov. John Hoeven, the state's congressional delegation and several nationally-known experts on Lewis and Clark.

Many of the events took place on the campus of the University of Mary south of Bismarck on the bluffs

of the Missouri River.

"The whole theme of our event was how North Dakota greeted Lewis and Clark 200 years ago," Potter said. "It gives an example for the people in New Town. It should serve as a model. The crowds we served are an example of what can be expected."

Lt. Col. Dan Jacobson of the North Dakota National Guard was in charge of construction, security and parking during the 2004 event. He was pleased with the result and anticipates a similar success when the youth attend the Signature Event where a large number of people will gather.

"It was the first event that went 10 days," Jacobson said. "We were put in charge of parking and security, so for those 10 days, we had a sizeable presence and played a key role in the event."

Jacobson said 10 people were on site to monitor traffic issues and communications equipment made it easy for his staff to work with local deputies as well as medical staff if needed.

Guard members also spent three months building the earthlodges at the University of Mary that served as replicas of original American Indian earthlodges located at several places along the Missouri River.

The construction of the earthlodges was conceived as a cultural display and according to Maj. Davina French, the Lewis and Clark project officer, the National Guard embraced it. She said the authentic reproductions were designed the same way as the lodges of 200 years ago and the very same materials used.

"The Soldiers recreated history," French said. "They built those structures that gave us a new outlook on history and more importantly shows the value of the Native American culture then and now."

In addition, Jacobson said that when the St. Louis Corps of Discovery II re-enactors were retracing the voyage of Lewis and Clark and reached the North Dakota border, National Guard members escorted them with bridge boats approximately 120 miles to Fort Mandan, primarily because of low water concerns on the Missouri River.

George Donnelly is a consultant to National Guard Bureau for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. He has witnessed a number of Signature Events and he said the most heartwarming events take place in the smaller communities when children get involved.

He said North Dakota's plan encompassed exactly what history buffs were seeking out.

"I was really impressed with the earthlodges and the North Dakota tribes, the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara, and their interaction with Lewis and Clark," Donnelly said. "People said Bismarck is what it was because it was really about education and the Native American interaction. That's what it's really all about."

To apply, visit www.lcyouthrendezvous.com

Lewis and Clark in North Dakota

By Sgt. Ann Knudson,
Joint Force Headquarters

The two most significant events for the Lewis and Clark expedition in North Dakota were wintering over and meeting Sakakawea, who helped as an interpreter and guide.

Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark left St. Louis with forty-eight men on May 14, 1804. They were looking for a waterway to the Pacific Ocean, and wanted to establish an American foothold in the Missouri Valley, acquired in the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. They studied plants, animals, and geology along the way, discovering several new species.

The Corps of Discovery entered North Dakota on Oct. 13, 1804, and reached a group of Indian villages on Oct. 26 near what is now Washburn, N.D. At that time there were about 4,400 people in five villages, with Mandans, Minitaris (later called Hidatsa), and Amahamis living together. They were friendly and willing to trade. Lewis and Clark decided to build their winter housing directly opposite the lower Mandan village, seven miles south of the Knife River.

The expedition started building Fort Mandan on Nov. 2, using cottonwood logs cut nearby, and moved in two weeks later. The fort was V-shaped, with rooms on two sides, each with a fireplace. It was a bitter winter, with several cases of frostbite. Clark noted on Dec. 13, "The thermometer stands this morning at 20 below zero (Fahrenheit), a fine day." The temperature dropped below zero on forty days during their stay, and once down to minus 48.

The expedition traded goods and blacksmith work to the Indians for corn, beans, squash and berries, and sent out daily hunting parties. There were many wolves in the area, beaver in the creeks, deer in the woods, and abundant herds of bison, elk, and pronghorn antelope on the plains. Game meat is lean, so the corps' diet was low in fats, the best fuel for cold weather. The men ate five to seven pounds of meat per day and still felt hungry.

Despite the cold, visitors came to the fort all winter long. York was the first Black man these people had seen, and some tried to rub the color from his skin. The captains asked about the tribes and the country ahead, and tried to establish peaceful relations. They hired the trader Toussaint Charbonneau as an

interpreter. He brought with him his wife, Sakakawea, who spoke the language of the mountain tribes. (There are several versions of her name, but "sakaka" and "wea" are the Hidatsa words for "bird" and "woman.")

Sakakawea was then about sixteen years old, and six months pregnant. She was born in the Snake (Shoshone) tribe, but had been kidnapped from her home near the Missouri headwaters four years earlier. She could translate Shoshone to Hidatsa, and Charbonneau could translate Hidatsa to French. George Drouillard, another interpreter, translated French to English.

Sakakawea's baby, Jean Baptiste, or Pomp, was born on Feb. 11. "It is worthy of remark that this was the first child the woman had borne, and as is common in such cases her labor was tedious and the pain violent," wrote Lewis. Jessaume, an interpreter, suggested that a small portion of rattlesnake rattle would hasten the birth. The expedition had been collecting animal specimens, and Lewis had a rattle. "Whether this medicine was truly the cause or not I shall not undertake to determine, but I was informed she had not taken it more than 10 minutes before she brought forth."

The expedition left Ft. Mandan on April 7, 1805. They sent Corporal Warfington back with the keelboat and numerous specimens, including a live magpie and a live prairie dog, and proceeded onward with two pirogues and six canoes. The expedition was now down to 28 Soldiers and five civilians. They saw two 'white bears' (grizzlies) on April 15. They reached the joining of the Yellowstone and the Missouri on April 26, and crossed into Montana the next day.

Sakakawea was useful in several ways besides interpreting. Her presence, with her baby, proved that the expedition was peaceful. She gathered edible roots when game was scarce and sewed skins into moccasins. Their footgear needed constant replacing, since they wore out fast. She recognized landmarks that helped the expedition find its way through southwestern Montana, where she had lived as a child. When they met the Shoshone on Aug. 17, Sakakawea recognized a chief as her brother, Cameahwait. He helped the expedition trade for the horses

they needed to cross the Rocky Mountains.



Photo by Sgt. Ann Knudson, Joint Force Headquarters



Photo by Chief Warrant Officer Kiel Skager, Joint Force Headquarters

(Above) The 2005 opening ceremonies at the United Tribes International Powwow in Bismarck showcased both military and American Indian dress. (Left) Lewis and Clark re-enactors participating in the Corps of Discovery II explore the North Dakota countryside along with Lewis' Newfoundland dog that is portraying Seaman along the journey. (Below) North Dakota has vibrant American Indian culture, evident in the many powwows held throughout the state.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Billie Jo Lorus, Joint Force Headquarters

The 957th Multi-Role Bridge Company in Bismarck, N.D., has military jet boats and equipment that represents water navigation for the modern-day military.



Photo by Sgt. Ann Knudson, Joint Force Headquarters

To apply, visit www.lcyouthrendezvous.com

A R M Y N A T I O N A L G U A R D

Lewis & Clark Youth Rendezvous

August 13-18, 2006

www.lcyouthrendezvous.com

Essay Contest

Submit essay applications online from Nov. 12, 2005, to Feb. 28, 2006.

American history



Photo by Sgt. Ann Knudson, Joint Force Headquarters

Native American Indian culture and heritage is an important part of American history. Over 200 years ago, the American Indians helped Lewis and Clark all along their great journey westward. Without their help, the expedition would not have survived the trip.