

**LEWIS AND CLARK BEGIN NEW JOURNEY ON USPS
COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS**

Stamp Dedication Events Planned in Eleven Cities

WASHINGTON – Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, the leaders of the 1804-1806 Lewis and Clark expedition, will begin a new journey May 14 when the U.S. Postal Service issues three commemorative postage stamps honoring each adventurer and their joint command to map and explore the lands west of the Mississippi.

The official first day of issue ceremony for the Lewis and Clark stamps will take place at each of eleven sites along the route of the Lewis and Clark expedition:



IDAHO – 11 a.m.
Pink House Recreation Site
4815 Highway 12
Orofino, ID 83544

ILLINOIS – 10 a.m.
Camp River Dubois
Festival Grounds
Number One Lewis and Clark Trail
Hartford IL 62048

IOWA – 11 a.m.
Southern Hills Mall
Center Court
4400 Sergeant Rd
Sioux City IA 51106

KANSAS – 10 a.m.
Atchison Riverfront Park
1st & Commercial St
Atchison KS 66002

MISSOURI – 1:30 p.m.
Frontier Park
Lewis and Clark Monument
1000 Riverside Dr
St Charles MO 63301

MONTANA – 11 a.m.
Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail
Interpretive Center
4201 Giant Springs Rd
Great Falls MT 59405

NEBRASKA – 10 a.m.
Lewis and Clark Landing
345 Riverfront Dr (8th and Riverfront DR)
Omaha NE 68102

NORTH DAKOTA – 1:30 p.m.
Fort Mandan
2 miles west of the
ND Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center
Highway 83 & 200A
Washburn ND 58577

OREGON – Noon
Fort Clatsop National Memorial
92343 Fort Clatsop Rd
Astoria OR 97103

SOUTH DAKOTA – 11 a.m.
SD Capitol Building Rotunda
500 E Capitol Ave
Pierre SD 57501

WASHINGTON – 9 a.m.
Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center
Cape Disappointment State Park
Ilwaco WA 98624

All events are free and open to the public. May 14 marks the bicentennial of what became known as the Corps of Discovery – an expedition from the mouth of the Missouri River near St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean and back. President Thomas Jefferson instructed Lewis and Clark to follow the Missouri and Columbia Rivers, and locate, if it existed, the elusive Northwest Passage.



“The Lewis and Clark expedition was a daring effort to chart the new territory of the United States – the Louisiana Purchase,” said Patrick R. Donahoe, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President, U.S. Postal Service, who will dedicate the stamps in Hartford, IL. “And it is today one of America’s greatest stories of adventure. The Postal Service takes great pride in sharing the often-epic, often-inspiring history of our great land, through postage stamps.”

To commemorate the bicentennial of the official launch of the Lewis and Clark expedition, the U.S. Postal Service will issue three 37-cent self-adhesive stamps. One stamp features an image of the two valiant leaders of the expedition standing on a promontory surveying the countryside, available in a pane of twenty stamps. The two additional stamps feature individual portraits of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark painted by Michael J. Deas in a style reminiscent of early 19th-century portraits of the two explorers. Ten each of these stamp portraits are included in a special 32-page prestige booklet entitled “Lewis & Clark: The Corps of Discovery, 1804-1806,” available for \$8.95. In addition to the stamps, the booklet contains informative text, historic illustrations and scenic photographs. Ron Fisher, a Lewis & Clark enthusiast who visited many of the expedition’s sites and first wrote about the Corps of Discovery in 1970, wrote the text.

To see all three of the Lewis & Clark stamps and other images from the 2004 Commemorative Stamp Program, visit the Postal Store at www.usps.com/shop and click on “Release Schedule” in the Collector’s Corner.

Current U.S. stamps, as well as a free comprehensive catalog, are available by toll-free phone order at 1 800 STAMP-24. A wide selection of stamps and other philatelic items is also available at the Postal Store at www.usps.com/shop. Beautifully framed prints of original stamp art for delivery straight to the home or office are available at www.postalartgallery.com.

Since 1775, the U.S. Postal Service has connected friends, families, neighbors and businesses by mail. An independent federal agency, the Postal Service makes deliveries to more than 141 million addresses every day and is the only service provider to deliver to every address in the nation. The Postal Service receives no taxpayer dollars for routine operations, but derives its operating revenues solely from the sale of postage, products and services. With annual revenues of more than \$68 billion, it is the world’s leading provider of mail and delivery services, offering some of the most affordable postage rates in the world. Moreover, today’s postage rates will remain stable until at least 2006. The U.S. Postal Service delivers more than 43 percent of the world’s mail volume - some 202 billion letters, advertisements, periodicals and packages a year - and serves seven million customers each day at its 38,000 retail locations nationwide.

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