



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
St. Louis District®

News Release

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1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63103-2833

National Great Rivers Museum hosts Lewis and Clark Traveling Exhibit

Starting this weekend, people will have the unique opportunity to experience the histories of the Mississippi River and the Lewis and Clark Expedition in one spot.

Visitors to the National Great Rivers Museum in Alton, Ill., between March 27 and April 1, will not only learn about the Mississippi River through the museum's many interactive displays, but they'll also have the opportunity to experience the Lewis and Clark Expedition through the "Corps of Discovery II: 200 Years to the Future," a federal interagency traveling exhibit.

Corps II is a mobile exhibit designed to provide visitors an introduction to the Lewis and Clark story. The traveling interagency exhibit includes two tents with interpretive exhibits and a performance tent called the "Tent of Many Voice." The "Tent of Many Voices," the central feature of Corps II, is a 150-seat auditorium used as a venue for cultural arts demonstrations, folklore, music, living history presentations, readings from the expedition journals and more.

This weekend's live performances in the "Tent of Many Voices" are as follows:

Saturday, March 27

- 10 a.m. Diplomatic Cooking presented by Dave Quebedeaux, Corps of Engineers
- 11 a.m. George Drouillard presented by Tim Bischoff, Corps of Engineers
- 12 p.m. Uniforms of the Expedition presented by Ken Wilk, Corps of Engineers
- 1 p.m. The Underground Railroad in Alton presented by Eric Robinson, Alton, Ill.
- 2 p.m. Music of the Expedition presented by Larry Spisak, Corps of Engineers
- 3 p.m. Osage Tribal member shares tribal perspective of Expedition

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Sunday, March 28

- 10 a.m. Uniforms of the Expedition presented by Ken Wilk, Corps of Engineers
- 11 a.m. Music of the Expedition presented by Larry Spisak, Corps of Engineers
- 12 p.m. Osage Tribal member shares tribal perspective of Expedition
- 1 p.m. The Alton Military Prison during the Civil War presented by Don Huber, Alton, Ill.
- 2 p.m. Diplomatic Cooking presented by Dave Quebedeaux, Corps of Engineers
- 3 p.m. Osage Tribal member shares tribal perspective of Expedition
- 4 p.m. George Drouillard presented by Tim Bischoff, Corps of Engineers

“This is a great opportunity for the public to learn more about the legendary Lewis and Clark Expedition and its great significance in American history, all within view of the Mighty Mississippi,” said Carol Ryan, National Great Rivers Museum director.

The National Great Rivers Museum is located next to the Melvin Price Locks and Dam, the newest lock on the Mississippi River, and is just 4 miles north of the confluence of the Mississippi and Missouri River. The Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery spent the winter of 1804 near by at the mouth of the River DuBois. On May 14, 1804, the expedition left Camp DuBois, heading west up the Missouri River.

The museum and the Lewis and Clark exhibit are free to the public and will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The National Great Rivers Museum, which was selected as a “Midwest Travel Treasure” by AAA’s Midwest Traveler magazine in July/August 2003, had its grand opening Oct. 15. The museum tells the story of the Mississippi River, which has been designated a national treasure and is the third largest river in the world. The museum’s displays are split into three sections: Our River, Lock and Dam System, and People and the River.

In Alton, weekday school group programs for Corps II can be arranged by calling the Alton Convention and Visitor Bureau at 1-800-258-6645.

Additional information is available on the web at www.lewisandclarkgnet.org or www.nps.gov/lecl. After it’s visit to Alton, Corps II will be hosted by Rend Lake, in Benton, Ill., April 7-11.

Editor's Note: Pre-event interviews can be arranged by calling the Public Affairs Office at 314-331-8068/8095/8002. Media are invited to attend this event. Pre-coordination with the Public Affairs Office or the National Great Rivers Museum, 618-462-6979, would be appreciated but is not required. The Rend Lake Project Office phone number is 618-724-2493.

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