

2-5-01
The Manitou Bluffs chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation held its first meeting of the new year Jan. 14 at the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Mary Duncan of the organization's education committee said that the Montana-based foundation has been in existence for more than 20 years and that the local chapter has been around for about three years. She said it was formed to educate people about the Lewis and Clark expedition and to support preservation of natural areas along the Missouri River and the cross-state Katy trail. The Lewis and Clark expedition's 200th anniversary will be observed in 2004.

"Our focus right now for our chapter is educating the public," Duncan said. "We're sending a traveling trunk from school to school, containing replicas of tools and clothing that Lewis and Clark would have used, to get kids interested in their history."

The local chapter covers an area from Lexington to Hermann, Duncan said. The 19 participants represented towns ranging from Arrow Rock to Pilot Grove to Hermann.

The organization plans to meet again on April 26 in Boonville and July 12 in Brunswick. For more information, call Mike Duncan at (660) 837-3335 or write P.O. Box 136, Rocheport, Mo., 65279.

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