



# **LEWIS & CLARK EXPLORATORY CENTER**

## **THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN 2010-2011**



**Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center  
Charlottesville, Virginia**

**A Phase I 2500 square-foot Visitor's Center  
A Home on the River for the Entire Community  
A Hands-On Activity Center  
A Tourist Destination  
A Place to Make Discoveries**



## LEWIS & CLARK EXPLORATORY CENTER

Christopher McLean, President  
Sally Thomas, Vice President  
Malou Stark, Treasurer  
Bill Speiden, Secretary  
Fran Lawrence, Capital Campaign  
Chair  
Alexandria Searls,  
Executive Director  
Office: 401 McIntire Road, 2nd

The Lewis and Clark Exploratory  
Center is a 501 (c) (3) corporation.  
All contributions are fully tax-  
deductible to the extent allowed by  
law.

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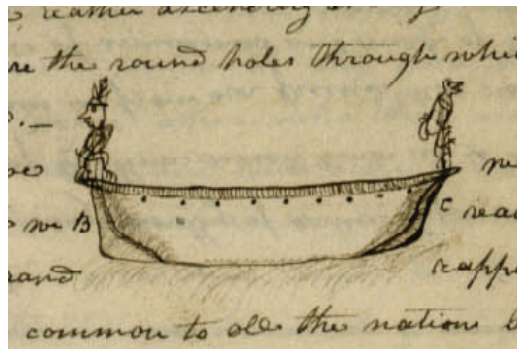
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**MISSION:** Located on the banks of the Rivanna River, the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center is a hands-on center focusing on the historic expedition as a gateway for learning about exploration, transportation, the arts, science, the natural environment, and native cultures.

**HISTORY:** Conceived by Thomas Jefferson, the Lewis & Clark Expedition (1803-1806) was led by Meriwether Lewis, who was born in Albemarle County, and by William Clark, whose family lived for years in Albemarle County on land adjacent to the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center site.

**FACTS:** We are currently open to the general public May through October on weekends at the Keelboat Barn in Darden Towe Park and by appointment to school and scouting groups throughout the year during the week. We serve approximately 5,000 visitors per year, and anticipate serving 25,000 our first year in our new facility. Our program and operational budget for 2010 is \$191,000. We had a full audit in 2003 and a review audit in 2007.

**VISION:** The Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center will create a green educational center by the Rivanna River that will foster a love of nature and exploration in visitors of all ages.



# A SHARED VISION

“This is the first waterfall I’ve ever seen.” Hearing those words from a fourth grader makes all of our efforts at the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center feel worthwhile. And in 2009 and 2010 our efforts have been more far-reaching and ambitious than ever. At the Keelboat Barn in Darden Towe Park we hosted the City of Charlottesville camps for middle income and disadvantaged children and the Boys and Girls Club of Orange for their weekly “Lewis & Clark Club.” We led activities for special needs children, bringing them the joys of the Rivanna River and the experience of reenacting history on our full-sized keelboat replica. We welcomed groups from both our community and around the state, teaching them about the local roots of the Lewis & Clark Expedition. Most significantly, we organized our own Camp Explore, serving the children of recent refugees and bringing them new opportunities to learn about nature, science, art, and history.

What has become apparent through the success of our summer programs and the launching of our extensive afterschool “Art and Nature” workshops is that we have been good stewards of our resources—and that we are ready for the permanent home we have been working so hard for. We have grown exponentially and so much more will be possible when we have our new building by the river.

We are close to that goal, and we are asking for your help to bring us the rest of the way. We welcome your involvement, your questions, and your dedication to creating a green, educational center by the Rivanna River, a center that will serve adults and children, tourists and community members.





We have currently secured 90% of our capital funding and are looking forward to breaking ground in 2011. The County of Albemarle and the City of Charlottesville have leased the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center 17 acres of riverfront property within Darden Towe Park for a 40 year period, and we are eager to fulfill the community expectations that this lease embodies. The acreage includes the building site, hiking trails, and access to the river.

We already have concept sketches from the renowned architectural firm Nelson Byrd, as well as a preliminary floor plan by Bill McDonough Architects. With our final site plan approved this past spring, our Request for Proposals from Design/Build teams is scheduled to be released in the fall for an environmentally sensitive, LEED certified building. Geothermal heating will be part of our requirements, as will flexible space that will allow for many different types of uses necessary for our mission and for our financial self-sufficiency. The new Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center will include exhibition and activity space, a café, trails, an outdoor classroom, and a pedestrian ferry across the river. Visitors of all ages will find a place to learn and make discoveries.



## **The future Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center will be:**

a hands-on activities center for visitors of  
all ages • exciting exhibition space • a local trail-  
head for river and forest walks • history, sci-  
ence, and the arts • a national trailhead looking  
west to the Lewis & Clark National Heritage Trail •  
a transportation museum • a meeting place for  
the community and other nonprofits • an indoor class-  
room • an outdoor classroom •

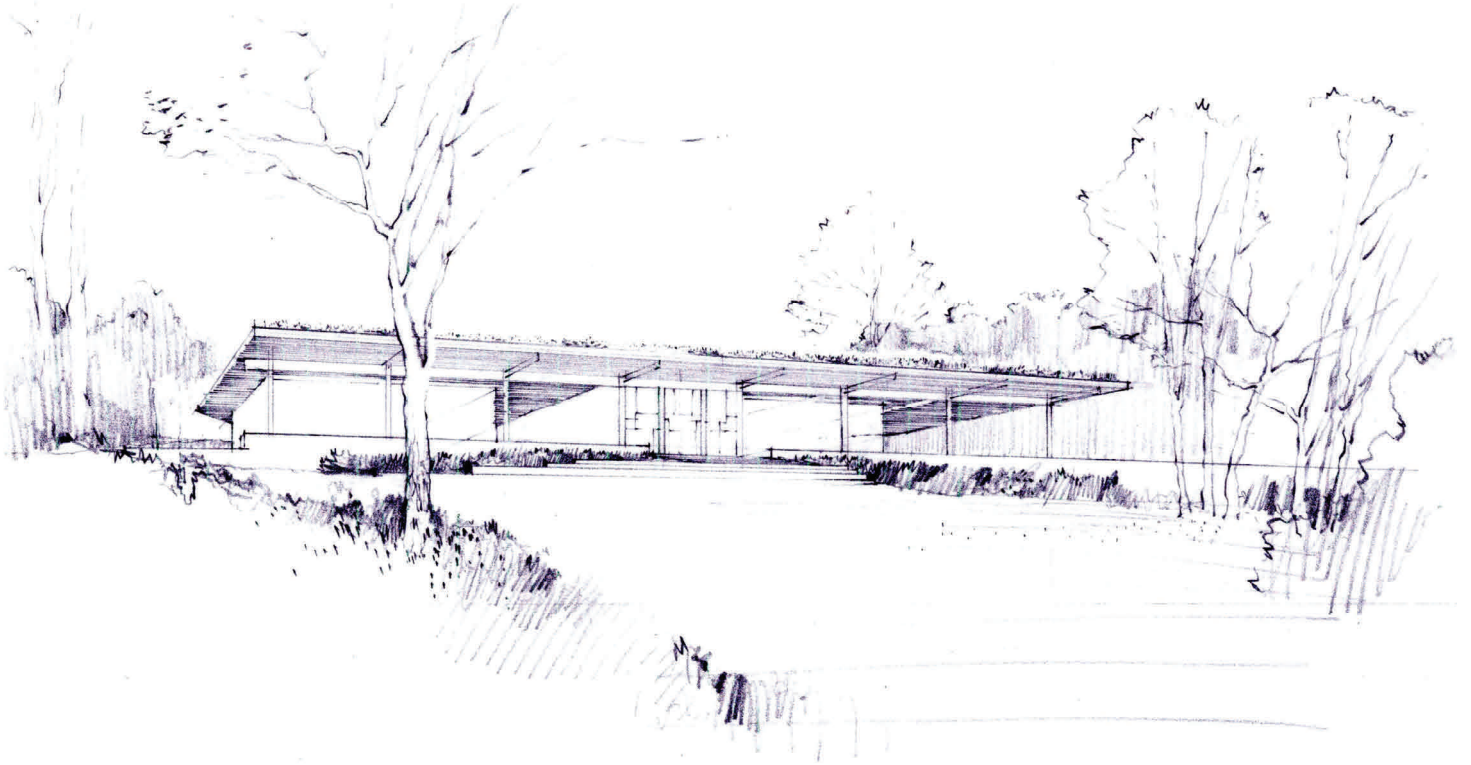
a scouting center • a rentable location for elegant weddings, business meetings, children's parties, and more • a boating center • a boat-building center • a camp headquarters a birding trail • a Local History Center • a tourist destination • a place to examine our national heritage and the meeting of cultures • the history of how the Expedition began here





NELSON  
BYRD  
WOLTZ  
ARCHITECTS

LEWIS AND CLARK  
Exploratory Center  
Albemarle County, Virginia  
EXPLORATORY CENTER ENTRANCE





# OUR FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS

We have in current capital funds:

\$800,000 in Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Enhancement Funds. (2010, \$200,000; 2009, \$150,000; 2008, 300,000; 2007, \$150,000) The Enhancement Program supports transportation museums of statewide significance and projects that enhance the trails systems in their communities.

\$100,000 from the Charles Fund, a private foundation that supports the study of history. Other projects receiving donations from the fund include the Frontier Culture Museum.

\$100,000 from the Perry Foundation, finishing funds which had a match requirement that has been achieved

\$150,000 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to be used for hard construction costs

\$50,000 in pledged funds from the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Board of Directors.

We are seeking an additional \$100,000 to reach our initial building goals for the Visitor's Center of \$1,300,000.; and \$300,000 to complete trails, handicapped access to the river and exhibits, and an outdoor amphitheatre.

**Our corporate supporters and partner businesses** for capital and program efforts include Bank of America, the Auto Superstore, Target, Dominion Power, Chase Investment Counsel, Mountain Lumber, Better Living, Lowe's, Blue Ridge Mountain Sports, Augusta Lumber, and Crutchfield's. We have received major program grants from the National Park Service, the Prana Fund of the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation, the Fair Play Foundation, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the Bama Works Fund of the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation. We have also received significant gifts from the Batten Foundation, the Watterson Foundation, and the Gieck Foundation.

## OUR CURRENT PROGRAMS

When visitors come to the current Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center, housed in the Keelboat Barn in Darden Towe Park, they encounter full-size replicas of all the different types of boat that Lewis and Clark travelled on in the Expedition: the 55-ft. long Keelboat, the 42-ft. long Red Pirogue, the 39-ft. White Pirogue, as well as a Native American bull boat (made of buffalo hide and willow branches), and a dug out for children to work on.

Red signs indicate hands-on working stations, for what has been described as an “activity cafeteria.” We have “Art in Action” for mask making that teaches about North American animals, “Science Station” for bird activities and water studies, “Beading” with a Native American focus, and “Carpentry Corner” for projects such as nail art and bird houses. We have a Boatbuilder’s Apprentice Program where children learn to hammer, chisel, saw and drill.

Some activities remain constant, and others change. We have painting and oar smoothing and nature journaling. We lead scavenger hunts that teach the compass and the use of a hand-held GPS unit. For the Fourth of July we do red, white and blue printmaking, and in the fall we make leaf prints.

Boatbuilding has also been a traditional part of our program, and we invite older children to make their own pirogues in special workshops. We also have a fleet of kayaks to get children out into nature, appreciating the wildlife and plants of the river. In addition, this year we have begun to explore folk art inspired by the 19th Century with such crafts as making checkerboards and farm animal portraits. This year too we created petroglyphs and we made our own compasses with needles and water.

Our programs are continually evolving, but they always remain an exploration.





# Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center

Charlottesville, Virginia

Spring 2010

## LCEC Serving the Community with New Afterschool Program

Through a significant grant from the Prana Fund of the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation, the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center has been able to develop and offer a series of workshops called “Art and Nature” that teach environmental awareness and arts skills to elementary school students.

We are currently leading those workshops in the City of Charlottesville and County of Albemarle public schools as part of their afterschool program. Five workshop leaders have served eight locations during the 2009-2010 school year. The mentors write summaries of the strengths and challenges of each workshop to help develop the program and provide support for future workshop leaders.

Rachel Singel, an Aunspaugh Fellow in Studio Art at the University of Virginia, leads workshops at Stony Point Elementary, which she also attended in her childhood. (She’s delighted to be back at her Elementary Alma Mater.) Her March 2 drawing workshop focused on ornithology, using books, audible children’s toys, and CDs of bird songs. She writes, “We started out looking at all the books and talking about the different species of birds we have seen around our houses. Almost everyone had seen a cardinal before! I handed out the



toy birds and we passed them from table to table, hearing their different calls individually. During this time, I passed out pencils and paper and we did some sketches of birds we have seen, using the images in the books as guides. As the students worked, I played the CDs of bird calls on the classroom computer. When we reached the track with owl calls, everyone thought we were listening to monkeys! They were amazed that birds could make such loud noises!

Getting outside is a vital part of the Lewis & Clark “Art and Nature” program. Rachel continues, “We stayed inside until it stopped raining, and then ventured out for a walk. We looked for signs of birds, from nests to feathers. On our walk the students discovered multiple

nests up high in the trees and a post that a woodpecker had tunneled into. Marika was thrilled when she found a single white feather! We also saw bunches of chickadees and two big vultures. On the way back, we were extra quiet so we could hear the small birds rustling in the leaves and chirping to one another.”

Other projects have included leaf sculptures and prints, animal paintings, mapmaking, clay relief landscapes to teach about the watershed, and journal entries such as Lewis and Clark made on the Expedition.



The “Art and Nature” workshops will continue next fall with a new group of locations. The Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center offers the workshops to the public schools at no cost. An exhibition about the program will take place this coming summer at the Charlottesville Transit Center and will feature the children’s work.



# Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center

*Charlottesville, Virginia*

*Spring 2010*

## SITE PLAN APPROVED

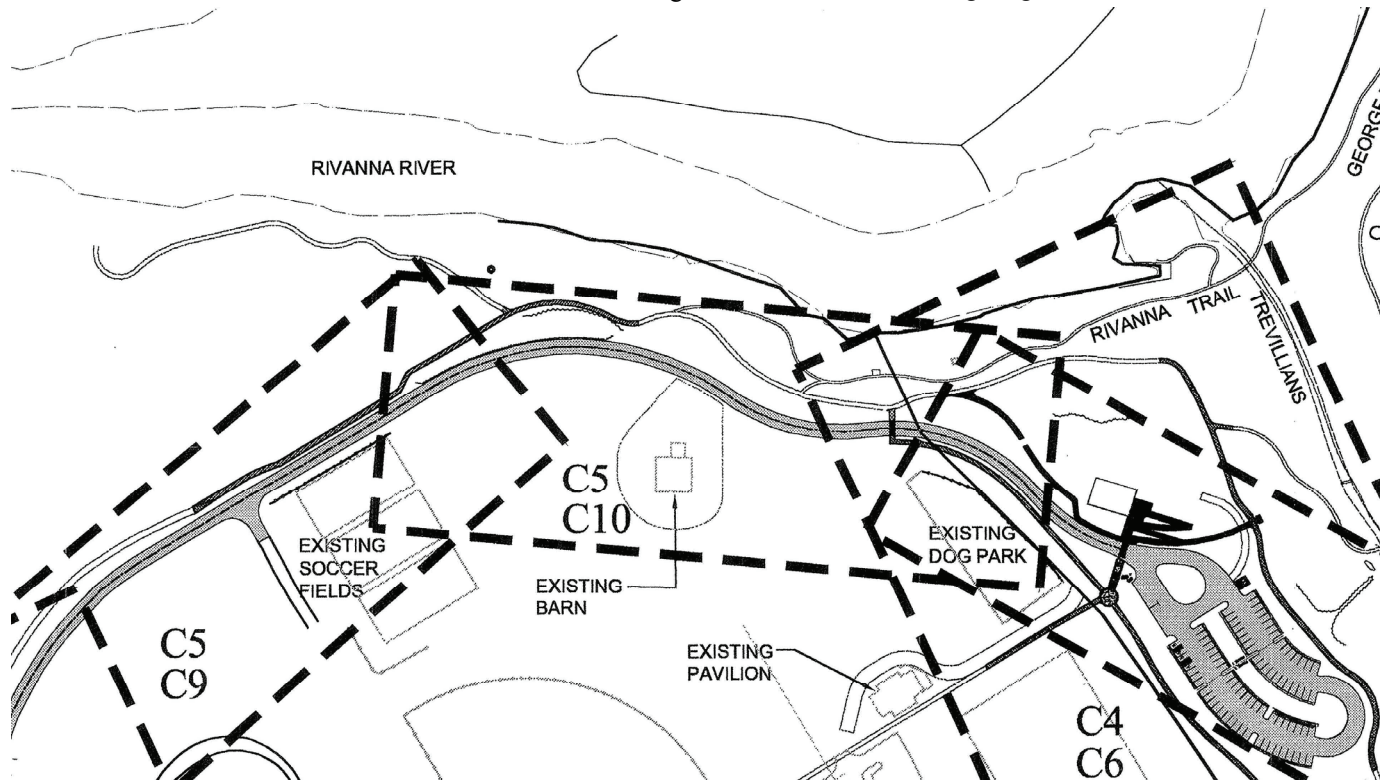
On January 15, 2010 Albemarle County granted final approval to the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center Site Plan, allowing us to move forward towards building our permanent facility overlooking the Rivanna River. It was a four-year process that honored best environmental policies and was shepherded through by Dominion Development Resources, an engineering and design firm based in Charlottesville. All aspects of the project, including access, grading, soil removal, and watershed protection, were examined closely with different approaches weighed and consensus reached.

The Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center will give the community a home from which to enjoy the beauty of the meandering Rivanna River, to set out across fields and woods rich in history, to enjoy rotating exhibitions, and to participate in hands-on activities relating to boatbuilding, science and the arts.

We would like to thank the many grantors who made the engineering of the site plan possible, including the Bama Works Fund of the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation, the National Parks Service, and the Commonwealth of Virginia. Without their

generous support we could not have gotten to the finish line of the site plan, which now marks the beginning of our further journey.

With a million dollars raised, and 250,000 to go, we are close to our goal of breaking ground. We ask for your help in closing the gap and in providing the Charlottesville-Albemarle area with an extraordinary place that will launch explorations and learning. The Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center is a 501 (c) (3) and all contributions are tax-deductible as allowable by law. Please contact us to learn about ways of giving.



**LEWIS & CLARK EXPLORATORY CENTER, P.O. Box 281, Charlottesville, Virginia 22902, 434-979-2425**  
[lewisandclark@lewisandclarkeast.org](mailto:lewisandclark@lewisandclarkeast.org), [www.lewisandclarkeast.org](http://www.lewisandclarkeast.org)/Anne Hemenway, President/Alexandria Searls, ED  
 Open at Darden Towe Park May through October, Saturday 10-4, Sunday 12-4, and by appointment

# Letters of Endorsement



Kenneth C. Boyd  
Rivanna  
Lindsay G. Dorrier, Jr.  
Scottsville  
Ann H. Mallek  
White Hall

COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE  
Office of Board of Supervisors  
401 McIntire Road  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902-4596  
(434) 296-5843 FAX (434) 296-5800

Dennis S. Rooker  
Jack Jouett  
David L. Slutzky  
Rio  
Sally H. Thomas  
Samuel Miller

March 13, 2009

**To Whom It May Concern:**

The Albemarle County Board of Supervisors would like to offer its support for the Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center funding, and recognize the Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center's contributions to the community through its environmental educational programs and its hands-on activities that teach American history and the skills of exploration to children and adults alike.

At its future site, the Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center will expand tourism opportunities for our region. The Center will highlight the beauty of the Rivanna River, and the local roots of the Lewis and Clark Expedition will be explored and presented. This will bring to the public a greater understanding of the historical significance of Albemarle County.

The Board of Supervisors fully supports the Lewis and Clark Exploratory Centers request for Federal funding, both through appropriations from the Virginia Fifth Congressional District and through the 2009 stimulus package.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Slutzky", is written over a horizontal line.

David Slutzky  
Chairman

DS/mrh



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THE RIVANNA RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

"Protecting the Rivanna River Watershed: A Confluence of Interests"

490 Wakefield Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22901  
October 25, 2007

RE: Transportation Enhancement Grant, Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center,  
Educational Center, Trails and Pedestrian Ferry

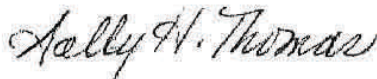
To the Commonwealth Transportation Board:

As chair of the newly-constituted Rivanna River Basin Commission, I've been authorized by the members to write enthusiastically in support of the Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center's grant application. For your information, the Commission consists of the local governments of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene and Charlottesville and was enabled by state legislation in 2004. Its purpose is to "provide guidance for the stewardship and enhancement of the water and natural resources of the Rivanna River Basin."

The Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center's program already is educating children and adults about the Rivanna River, its history and ecology, with unique hands-on projects. City kids who didn't even know there was a river here have now built and raced pirogue boats on the Rivanna – they'll never again overlook that form of transportation or the river near them. Perhaps of more relevance to VDOT, the Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center project will enhance the pedestrian and bicycle experience, the Rivanna Trails system, and create a new "multi-modal" opportunity with a pedestrian ferry. From the River Commission's perspective, it's a splendid project to enhance appreciation of the river, and we believe that the more people experience the river as something other than "what runs under a bridge," the more they will want to protect the river. Thus, this project furthers the Commission's goals and seems to be a perfect opportunity for VDOT to support a nearly unique pedestrian/river mode of transportation and a project that is already engaging the community in its river and its history.

In sum, the Rivanna River Basin Commission asks the Commonwealth Transportation Board to approve TEA funding for the Lewis and Clark educational center, trails and pedestrian ferry projects. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sally H. Thomas, Chair

**Albemarle County**  
Sally H. Thomas (Chair)  
Lindsay G. Dorrier, Jr.  
John C. Martin

**City of Charlottesville**  
Kendra Hamilton  
Kevin Lynch  
Paolo D'Odorico

**Fluvanna County**  
Marvin F. Moss (Vice-Chair)  
Gene F. Ott  
Andy Wilson

**Greene County**  
Jeri Allen  
Mickey Cox  
Smith Coleman

**Culpeper SWCD**  
Robert Runkle

**Thomas Jefferson SWCD**  
John E. Easter, II



Office of the Superintendent  
401 McIntire Road, Room 345  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902-4596  
Phone: (434) 296-5826 Fax: (434) 296-5869  
[www.k12albemarle.org](http://www.k12albemarle.org)

October 26, 2007

Alexandria Searls  
Director of Operations  
Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center  
P.O. Box 281  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

Dear Ms. Searls:

I would like to offer my support to your VDOT grant proposal to enhance the Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center. As superintendent, I believe that project-based, experiential learning offers children the best opportunities to engage with history. Your proposal not only addresses development of children's historical knowledge and understanding of the importance of the Voyage of Discovery but also provides a connection for children to the natural world of our community today. In particular, Albemarle educators have a longstanding commitment to environmental education. The opportunity for students to directly learn within the Rivanna watershed, exploring its connectivity to the Chesapeake Bay is a great experience to have available so close to our urban schools. I can imagine educational activities that might span both parks and the river to the exploratory center and would love to see you engage a teacher team to help create a curricula or units tied to our new concept-centered science curricula.

I look forward to your receipt of this grant funding since I know the children of Albemarle County Public Schools would be beneficiaries of the site's development and the educational opportunities that you will offer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pamela R. Moran".

Pamela R. Moran  
Superintendent of Schools







October 31, 2007

Alexandria Searls  
Director of Operations  
Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center  
P.O. Box 281  
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Dear Alexandria,

The Charlottesville Albemarle Convention & Visitors Bureau supports your efforts to build a new facility, enhance trails and construct a Rivanna River ferry that will connect Pen and Darden Towe parks.

These plans along with your continued support of our youth are vital for the sustainability of natural and historical characteristics of our community in future generations. We applaud your foresight in finding new ways to connect youth—particularly those within our urban areas—with our destination's prized natural beauty. The Rivanna River is a highly valuable tourist attraction in our area, and we value your efforts to continue to develop our area's tourism products.

Additionally, the impact that your past efforts continue to provide our community are outstanding. Putting out a welcome mat for not only additional visitors, but for the workforce through your growing internship program is something that benefits our guests and our residents.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Shore".

Mark Shore  
Director & CEO

Charlottesville Albemarle Convention & Visitors Bureau  
[www.pursueCharlottesville.com](http://www.pursueCharlottesville.com)

P.O. Box 178, Charlottesville, VA 22902 • Phone: 434.293.6789 • Toll Free: 877.386.1103 • Fax: 434.295.2176

# Biographies

## Christopher McLean, President

At Signature, Chris McLean works with clients to implement wealth management strategies. He previously served as Market President for Bank of America, where he coordinated the efforts of six distinct lines of business, employing over fifteen people. Additionally, he was Senior Vice President and Private Client Manager at U.S. Trust—Bank of America Private Wealth Management.

He began his term as President of the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center in 2010, and he also serves on the boards or committees of the following organizations: Hospice of the Piedmont, Central Virginia Estate Council, St. Anne's Alumni Council, and the Piedmont Environmental Council.

## Alexandria Searls, Executive Director

Alexandria Searls joined the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center in 2003 after a career in photography and in educational publishing. In Charlottesville she was one of the founders of Citizens for Jefferson School, and she has served on the Jefferson School Task Force and the McIntire Park Steering Committee,. She has taught media production at the University of Virginia, and has collaborated on two major photography projects with the Jefferson Library at Monticello. For six years she ran the Vinegar Hill Film Festival, which she founded, highlighting Virginian short films. In New York she was an editor and writer of Middle Grade textbooks in History and in English composition and uses her experience in children's educational materials in developing programs for the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center.

## Fran Lawrence, Capital Campaign Chair and Past President

Francis McQ. Lawrence is a founding partner in the law firm of St. John, Bowling & Lawrence, LLP. He specializes in high profile and complex cases, both criminal and civil. With over thirty years experience, Mr. Lawrence has established himself as one of Virginia's top litigators, having been recognized as one of the Best Lawyers in America for twelve years. Mr. Lawrence is a Fellow of the Virginia Bar Foundation, an honor reserved to only one percent of the active bar. He received both his B.A. and his J.D. from Washington & Lee University.

Mr. Lawrence is also a leader out of the courtroom and was recognized in 2004 as being one of the "Distinguished Dozen" for his many civic contributions and has been widely recognized for his leadership as President of the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center of Virginia. In addition to his contributions through the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center, Mr. Lawrence has served as President of the Charlottesville Albemarle Division of American Cancer Society, Chairman of CDBG Task Force, and as a member of the founding group of the Rivanna Trails Foundation.



# HISTORY'S

# FUTURE

MEGAN LOVETT — THE DAILY PROGRESS



Alexandria Searls, executive director of the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center of Virginia, touts the center's new facility, which will

be built near the Rivanna River in Darden Towe Park. She said it will "showcase the beauties we have here in our backyard."

## With a focus on fun, Lewis & Clark center to explore U.S.'s past

By Sharon C. Fitzgerald

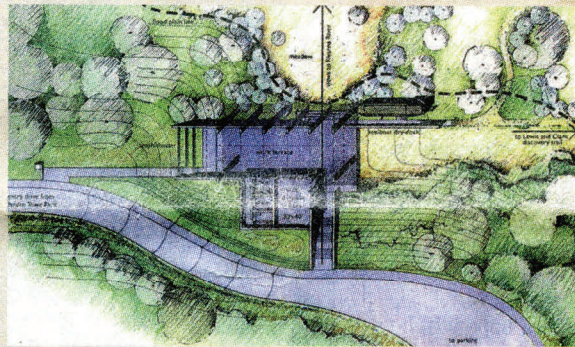
Daily Progress correspondent

When Meriwether Lewis and William Clark started their historic journey west in 1804, they carried with them a handful of people and a dream to explore uncharted territory.

Now final plans are being made for a center in Albemarle County that will showcase the history of the famous expedition while providing a way for people young and old to celebrate and explore their own surroundings.

"The Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center of Virginia will celebrate the original ideas and roots of the Lewis and Clark expedition," said Alexandria Searls, executive director of the center. "It will also showcase the beauties we have here in our backyard."

The new, 2,500-square-foot building will be located in the back of Darden Towe Park and over-



A conceptual drawing of the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center.

look the Rivanna River. Fundraising for the estimated \$1.3 million center is almost complete and construction is slated to begin in November, Searls said.

"We want to be a place where people can see the hard work that went into building the United States but have fun while doing it," Searls said.

The building will have an exhibit hall, a library, classrooms and meeting space. Visitors will be able to see full-size replicas of a keelboat and smaller boats similar to those used during the Lewis and Clark trip. The boats were built by children and volunteers in the years since the center was formed.

See EXPLORE on A11

# Explore

Continued from A1

"We have the only keelboat that I know of on the East Coast," Searls said.

The idea to construct a local center started more than 10 years ago when a group of locals wanted to recognize Thomas Jefferson's support and efforts of the Lewis and Clark expedition, Searls said. Lewis was a native of Albemarle and Clark had family ties to the area.

The program currently runs out of an office in the Albemarle County Office Building and holds programs for the public out of a small barn at Darden Towe Park. Classes are taught outside or inside an old, discarded barn that has been turned into several classrooms.

"It will be nice to have running water because right now I don't even have that," Searls said.

Throughout the spring and summer, Searls and seasonal staff teach children about everything from kayaking to mask making.

Once the center opens, Searls hopes it will be a tourist draw for people visiting Monticello, as well

as continue to serve children in the community and state.

"We have schoolchildren, community groups and home-schooled children that come to our classes," Searls said. "Most of the schools have beautiful locations but no place where they can hike and be out in nature. We want to provide that love of nature."

The group has raised \$1.2 million through private and state funds and hopes to raise another \$100,000 before breaking ground later this year.

"This has been a project long in the making," said county Supervisor and center board member Rodney S. Thomas. "I pat [organizers] on the backs for persevering and getting through the [fundraising and site approval] process."

Thomas was approved as a member of the board earlier this year.

The center recently received a \$200,000 enhancement grant through the Virginia Department of Transportation as part of its transportation enhancement program. It is the fourth VDOT grant the center has received in recent years and part of \$21.9 million awarded to

projects throughout the state this year.

"These transportation enhancement grants allow Virginia to enhance its rich history, educate our citizens and visitors and enhance the quality of life for all who call Virginia home," said Sean Connaughton, secretary of transportation, in a news release.

After the center is open, the group hopes to raise the money for a ferry that will transport visitors from Darden Towe Park to Pen Park via the Rivanna, Searls said.

Later this year, Searls plans to visit the Lewis and Clark Boat House and Nature Center in St. Charles, Mo., to learn about the establishment and build a relationship with its staff.

Although the trek started in Missouri and not Virginia, Thomas said there is a lot of history here that needs to be preserved and celebrated.

"This is where the whole thing started," Thomas said. "I've been to a center in Missouri and their place is immaculate. We're just catching up and, hopefully, we'll have a center that will be just as informative as the other centers in the country."

## Education, adventure

One more reason why Charlottesville and Albemarle County are special: the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center.

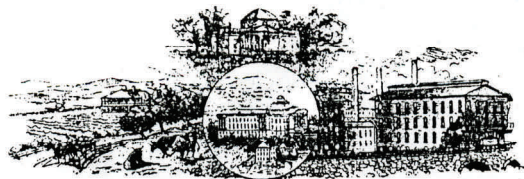
The center is expanding its presence as an educational tool, and is only \$100,000 shy of its \$1.3 million fundraising goal.

The Lewis and Clark Expedition, of course, explored a large chunk of America. Commissioned by Thomas Jefferson to find a route to the Pacific, the two men and their companions completed an arduous journey that added immensely to young America's knowledge, confidence and aspirations.

The significance of their efforts captured public attention anew just a few years ago, on the expedition's 200th anniversary. From that impetus, and based on local ties to both Jefferson and Meriwether Lewis, a group of visionaries created the Exploratory Center, with its replica of a keelboat such as the expedition would have used. The center sits in Darden Towe Park.

Organizers want to improve and expand on that accomplishment. "We want to be a place where people can see the hard work that went into building the United States but have fun while doing it," said Alexandria Searls, executive director. "We want to provide [a] love of nature" and "showcase the beauties we have here in our backyard."

Excellent goals. Hats off to those who have pushed ahead with Lewis-and-Clark-like determination to create a top-notch learning center and reconnect us with our history and our natural heritage.



Established 1892

**The Daily Progress**

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©Alexandria Searles, Director, Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center of Virginia, Inc.



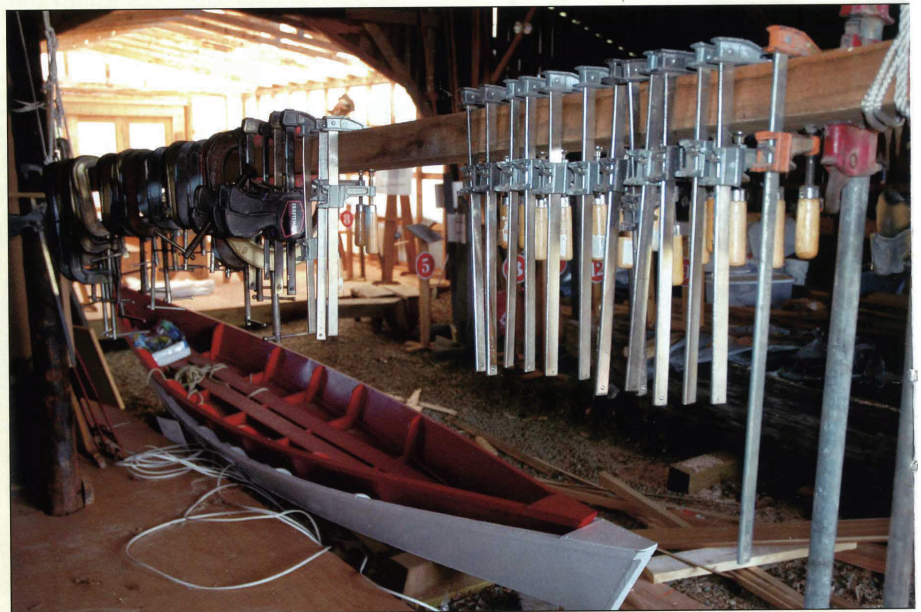
# A Keelboat on the Rivanna

essay and photos  
by Jim Crosby

Resting on the banks of the Rivanna River in Albemarle County is a strange looking vessel that looks like it might have washed up from another era. Fresh lumber mixed with aged planks, however, give it an odd appearance. The sight is one that begs an explanation.

That explanation is offered by the Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center

*Above: Young passengers were unloaded following the maiden voyage of the Discovery Virginia on the Rivanna River. Right: A stash of clamps hangs above the pirogues built in a barn in Charlottesville.*







Boat building started in this barn with the goal of a "wet launch" into the Rivanna to coincide with the October 23, 2004 issuance of the U.S. nickel bearing the keelboat's image. Aiming for that completion date, the group set out to construct the 22-oar sailing vessel, and the keel was laid in October, 2001. The center enlisted technical assistance from master historical boat builder Butch Bouvier, of Iowa, to build the 18th-century keel-

*Summer intern Jennifer Bell explains the contraption used to steam ship frames and planks so they would bend. She also demonstrates knot tying for a group of visitors.*



## Rivanna River?

of Virginia, who directed the construction of a full-sized replica of the keelboat that Meriwether Lewis and William Clark used in their expedition to explore and map America. Uniquely, over 250 young people from central Virginia built the vessel under adult supervision. Practice stations were established to teach nail driving, sawing, chiseling and hole boring. All of this activity took place in an old barn in Albemarle County, which now houses exhibits of art, drawings and historical tools, along with the keelboat replica.

*Acclaimed boat builder Butch Bouvier talks with visitors while taking a break from work on the Discovery Virginia.*



More than 250 young people helped to build the Discovery Virginia. Here, one practices her skill at nail driving.

boat. A celebration was held in October, 2003 so the boat could be pulled from its barn and turned upright to continue the construction process. That celebration corresponded with the Corps of Discovery's historical keelboat launching on Oct. 26, 1803. On that date, William Clark joined Meriwether Lewis on their keelboat at Louisville, Kentucky.

The Lewis and Clark Exploratory Center now operates in the old barn in Darden Towe Park, located on a bend of the river just north of Route 250 in Albemarle County. The "hands-on" facility commemorates the origins of the Lewis and Clark Expedition in Virginia, and construction of the keelboat represented an impressive first step. By building the boat, young people not only gained an appreciation of history and the use of tools, but also played a part in creating an important display. Many of the children were involved in a "Hammer, Chisel and Saw" summer camp activity where they learned boat-building skills and received merit badges.

Organizers met their goal and



Top: Butch Bouvier recruits a young man to help install the mast stays. Above: Two visitors try out the bunk beds in the aft cabin of the boat.

launched the 55-foot replica on that Saturday in October, 2004. U.S. Mint Director Henrietta Holsman Fore took part in the ceremonies, while state representative Virgil Goode smashed the traditional champagne bottle across the bow to christen the locally built replica as the *Discovery Virginia*. The boat weighs over six tons, and its launch required a very

large crane to lift and then lower it into the river.

For more information about the center, explore [www.lewisandclarkeast.org](http://www.lewisandclarkeast.org). □

Over the past decade, Jim Crosby has written several features for Virginia Wildlife in addition to his regularly appearing "On the Water" column. Crosby lives in Crozet and has been an active boater for more than 50 years.

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**Internal Revenue Service**

**Date:** June 1, 2005

LEWIS AND CLARK EXPLORATORY  
CENTER OF VIRGINIA INC  
% FRANCIS MCQ LAWRENCE  
PO BOX 281  
CHARLOTTESVLE VA 22902

**Department of the Treasury**  
**P. O. Box 2508**  
**Cincinnati, OH 45201**

**Person to Contact:**

Mr. Vogelpohl 31-03888  
Customer Service Representative

**Toll Free Telephone Number:**

8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ET  
877-829-5500

**Fax Number:**

513-263-3756

**Federal Identification Number:**

54-2014680

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in response to your request of June 1, 2005, regarding your organization's tax-exempt status.

In February 2001 we issued a determination letter that recognized your organization as exempt from federal income tax. Our records indicate that your organization is currently exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that your organization is also classified as a public charity under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our records indicate that contributions to your organization are deductible under section 170 of the Code, and that you are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code.

If you have any questions, please call us at the telephone number shown in the heading of this letter.

Sincerely,



Janna K. Skufca, Director, TE/GE  
Customer Account Services

Form **990**

**Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax**  
Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

OMB No. 1545-0047

**2008**

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

**A For the 2008 calendar year, or tax year beginning and ending**

<b>B</b> Check if applicable: <input type="checkbox"/> Address change <input type="checkbox"/> Name change <input type="checkbox"/> Initial return <input type="checkbox"/> Termination <input type="checkbox"/> Amended return <input type="checkbox"/> Application pending	Please use IRS label or print or type.  See Specific Instructions.	<b>C</b> Name of organization <b>LEWIS AND CLARK EXPLORATORY CENTER OF VIRGINIA, INC.</b>	<b>D</b> Employer identification number <b>54-2014680</b>
		Doing Business As	<b>E</b> Telephone number <b>(434) 296-7138</b>
		Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite <b>P.O. BOX 281</b>	<b>G</b> Gross receipts \$ <b>127,459.</b>
		City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4 <b>CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22902</b>	<b>H(a)</b> Is this a group return for affiliates? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
		<b>F</b> Name and address of principal officer: <b>ANNE B. HEMENWAY</b> <b>P.O. BOX 281, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22902</b>	<b>H(b)</b> Are all affiliates included? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)
<b>I</b> Tax-exempt status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c) (3) (insert no.) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527		<b>H(c)</b> Group exemption number ▶	
<b>J</b> Website: ▶ <b>WWW.LEWISANDCLARKEAST.ORG</b>			
<b>K</b> Type of organization: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Trust <input type="checkbox"/> Association <input type="checkbox"/> Other ▶		<b>L</b> Year of formation: <b>2000</b>	<b>M</b> State of legal domicile: <b>VA</b>

**Part I Summary**

<b>Activities &amp; Governance</b>	<b>1</b> Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: <b>TO ESTABLISH A UNIQUE LEWIS &amp; CLARK EXPLORATORY CENTER FOR SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES,</b>		
	<b>2</b> Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its assets.		
	<b>3</b> Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>
	<b>4</b> Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	<b>4</b>	<b>23</b>
	<b>5</b> Total number of employees (Part V, line 2a)	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>
	<b>6</b> Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>7a</b> Total gross unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, line 12, column (C)	<b>7a</b>	<b>0.</b>
<b>b</b> Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	<b>7b</b>	<b>0.</b>	
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>8</b> Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	<b>Prior Year</b>	<b>Current Year</b>
	<b>9</b> Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	<b>145,649.</b>	<b>125,268.</b>
	<b>10</b> Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	<b>70.</b>	<b>1,277.</b>
	<b>11</b> Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	<b>380.</b>	<b>219.</b>
	<b>12</b> Total revenue - add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	<b>146,099.</b>	<b>127,259.</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>13</b> Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)	<b>513.</b>	
	<b>14</b> Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)		
	<b>15</b> Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)	<b>35,270.</b>	<b>46,274.</b>
	<b>16a</b> Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	<b>13,093.</b>	
	<b>b</b> Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ <b>21,568.</b>		
	<b>17</b> Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24f)	<b>29,546.</b>	<b>39,381.</b>
	<b>18</b> Total expenses. Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	<b>78,422.</b>	<b>85,655.</b>
<b>19</b> Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	<b>67,677.</b>	<b>41,604.</b>	
<b>Net Assets or Fund Balances</b>	<b>20</b> Total assets (Part X, line 16)	<b>Beginning of Year</b>	<b>End of Year</b>
	<b>21</b> Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	<b>170,521.</b>	<b>228,363.</b>
	<b>22</b> Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	<b>865.</b>	<b>1,671.</b>
		<b>169,656.</b>	<b>226,692.</b>

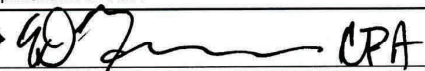
**Part II Signature Block**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here

Signature of officer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
**ANNE B. HEMENWAY, PRESIDENT**  
Type or print name and title

Paid Preparer's Use Only

Preparer's signature:  **CPA** Date: **11/16/09** Check if self-employed:  Preparer's identifying number (see instructions): \_\_\_\_\_  
Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4: **GARRIS AND COMPANY, P.C.**  
**1140 EAST MARKET STREET**  
**CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22902** EIN: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone no.: **(434) 971-7255**

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions)  Yes  No

832001 12-18-08

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Form **990** (2008)

SEE SCHEDULE O FOR ORGANIZATION MISSION STATEMENT CONTINUATION