



# JEFFERSON NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

NEWS RELEASE

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## **Jefferson National Parks Association launches Partner of the Parks**

*Membership program offers special benefits while helping preserve St. Louis landmarks*

ST. LOUIS (July 29, 2008) – A new program launched by the Jefferson National Parks Association (JNPA) gives individuals and businesses the opportunity to support and preserve two of the St. Louis-area’s most historic parks.

The Partner of the Parks membership program was launched earlier this month. Its goal is to prepare the Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site and Jefferson National Expansion Memorial – home to the Gateway Arch and Historic Old Courthouse – for the next century.

“This new membership program honors our origins while celebrating who we are today in an effort to best serve and protect these parks,” said David Grove, chief executive officer of JNPA. “This is the first opportunity for people to feel a true sense of stewardship for celebrated landmarks such as the Gateway Arch, Old Courthouse, or Grant’s Whitehaven.”

Partner of the Parks memberships can be purchased at the Gateway Arch, Historic Old Courthouse and Ulysses S. Grant sites or online at [www.membership.jnpa.com](http://www.membership.jnpa.com).

The program offers five annual levels of membership, ranging from the National Park Traveler level at \$35, which is geared toward out-of-town site visitors, to the Guardian level at \$500, which offers local residents tours and discounts they can enjoy throughout the year. Additionally, there are six annual Circle levels for Corporate and Community Patrons starting at \$1,000.

The idea for the program stems from the National Park Service Centennial Initiative of 2006. That initiative set forth guidelines to prepare the national park system for its next century of excellence in conservation, preservation and enjoyment.

During its 40-year existence, JNPA has provided more than \$20 million in support of the preservation of these park sites as well as to education programs, outreach and exhibits.

For more information, visit [www.jnpa.com](http://www.jnpa.com) or contact Kimberlee Riley, director of programs and chief operating officer, at [riley@jnpa.com](mailto:riley@jnpa.com) or 314-678-1511.

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