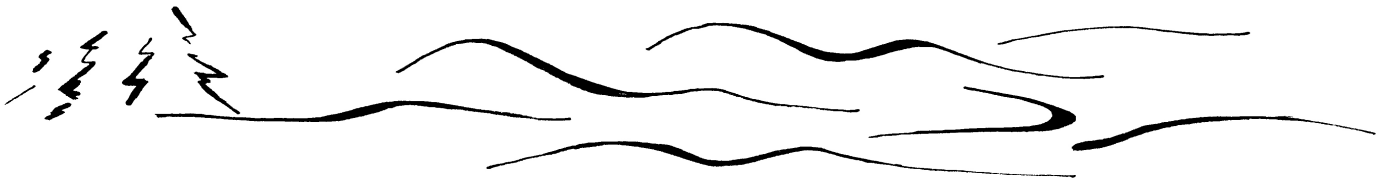


Sandhills Discovery Foundation



“Abraham Lincoln’s Impact on the Sandhills”

July 11-13, 2013

*Ainsworth High School
520 E. 2nd St., Ainsworth, NE*

The Sandhills Discovery Foundation welcomes you to the 12th annual Sand Hills Discovery Experience. The Foundation also welcomes you to participate in guided tours of the Sand Hills area. Vendors and educational exhibits are available to enhance your experience.

www.sandhillsdiscovery.org

- 8:00-8:45 Registration and exhibit/vendor viewing in the high school commons and hallways. Continental breakfast.
- 8:45-9:00 Conference opens in the Learning Center with presentation of the colors by the **Ainsworth Junior American Legion**, a welcome by **Kathy Klammer**, president of the Ainsworth Chamber of Commerce, and an invocation by **Pastor Eldon Davis, United Methodist Church**.
- 9:00-9:50 ***"A Snapshot of Abraham Lincoln: A Living Legend."* Matt Macoubrie, Author and Lecturer for the More than the Civil War Tour.**
- 9:50-10:20 Break time and snacks.
- 10:20-11:10 ***"President Lincoln's Legacies."* Maxine Moul, Nebraska State Director of USDA – Rural Development.**
- 11:15-12:05 ***"The Sandhills and Smart Growth: Abraham Lincoln and the Age of the Transcontinental Railroads."* Dr. David Nesheim, Asst. Professor of History at Chadron State College.**
- 12:10- 1:20 Lunch in school cafeteria (included with full day registration fee).
- 1:20-2:20 ***"The "Morrill" of the Story: Pres. Lincoln and the Land-grant Act of 1862."* Allison Sheridan, Curator-University Museum, Iowa State University.**
- 2:25-3:05 **Break-out Sessions**
- Session 1 – Shane Tucker – Fossil Identification.**
Session 2 – Dr. David Nesheim – Bison in the Sandhills.
Session 3 – Vicki Harris – African-American Pioneers and Cowboys of Nebraska.
- 3:05-3:35 Time to check out Vendors and Exhibitors in the Commons area and adjoining hallways.
- 3:40-4:30 ***"The Homestead Act and related American Legislation of 1862 viewed in an international perspective."* Dr. Bruce Garver, Professor of History, Department of History, University of Nebraska at Omaha.**
- 4:30-5:00 **Final visit to exhibits and vendors.**

VENDORS: Plains Trading Company, Keys Canning and Crafts, Sandhills Goat Products, Schroder's Rock Shop, Rylee's Homemade Creations, BIZ Kids, "When Smoke Filled the Skies: The Niobrara River Valley Wildfires of 2012" - All profits from the sales of this book go to local fire departments in Brown, Cherry, Rock and Keya Paha counties.

EXHIBITORS: Union Pacific Railroad, Glenna Abbott's Barb Wire Collection, Vanessa Taylor's documentary entitled "Too Much Dust: Turning Catastrophe into Conservation."

Pre and Post Conference Tours and Workshops

Thursday, July 11, 2013

1. Fossil Dig

9:00am – 12:00 noon

Fee \$15.00

*Meet at the Rock County Fairgrounds in Bassett for carpooling.

This tour will visit a 6.6 million year old fossil dig north of Bassett. Shane Tucker, Highway Salvage Paleontologist, will assist participants to work the dig. Tour is limited to 16 participants per session.

2. Fossil Dig

12:30pm – 3:30pm

Fee \$15.00

*Meet at the Rock County Fairgrounds in Bassett for carpooling.

This tour will visit a 6.6 million year old fossil dig north of Bassett. Shane Tucker, Highway Salvage Paleontologist, will assist participants to work the dig. Tour is limited to 16 participants per session.

3. Fairfield Creek Fire Tour

1:00pm – 4:00pm

Fee \$15.00

* Meet at the Ainsworth Community Center North parking lot for carpooling.

Drive through the areas that were affected by the devastating wildfire in the summer of 2012. Tour will be lead by Dr. Al Steuter, grassland ecologist.

4. Railroad Tour

Time 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Fee \$15.00

*Meet at the Rock County Fairgrounds in Bassett for carpooling.

After a visit to the Railroad Depot in Bassett, you will visit the Long Pine Heritage House Museum to view a detailed diorama of the Long Pine Rail Yards including the historic Round House. Then, you will walk across the scenic Long Pine Railroad Bridge located 115 feet above Long Pine Creek.

Friday, July 12, 2013

5. Dutch Oven Cooking Workshop

6:00pm

Fee \$20.00 for adults

\$5.00 for age 12 and under

*Held at Barb Lamb's house in rural Ainsworth. (Directions are available at registration desk.)

Debra Rhodes will discuss the history of Dutch Ovens, care/maintenance, and cooking techniques. A delicious dinner with all the trimmings and dessert is included. Workshop is limited to 40 participants.

Saturday, July 13, 2013

6. Moon Lake Road Tour

Time 9:00am – 12:00 noon

Fee \$15.00

* Meet at the Ainsworth Community Center North parking lot for carpooling.

Up close viewing of Sand Hills hay meadows, historic ranches and several Sand Hill lakes.

7. Norden Bridge/Railroad Bridge Quarry Tour

Time 8:00am – 2:00pm

Fee \$25.00

* Meet at the Ainsworth Community Center North parking lot for carpooling.

Explore the geology of the Norden Bridge area. Then drive along the Niobrara River Road to the Valentine Bridge and learn the history of the Railroad Bridge Fossil Quarry. Enjoy a dutch treat lunch in Valentine.

Prepare for Your Sand Hills Discovery Experience Tour: Bring water/beverage; bug/tick spray; sun block; comfortable shoes/clothes, cap/hat. Be prepared for a "rough ride". Some tours require some walking.

General Information: These tours require conference registration in addition to cost of the tours. Return times are approximate. Tours are limited in size and will be filled on first come, first serve basis. **You are encouraged to carpool for the tours. The Sand Hills Discovery Foundation is not responsible for any mishaps during the conference or on the guided tours.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The **Ainsworth Public Schools** has once again offered the use of their facilities for this conference.

Ainsworth Senior Center furnishes the meeting place for the Sand Hills Discovery Foundation.

The **Ainsworth Chamber of Commerce** assists in registration and answering phone calls.

The **City of Ainsworth** furnishes the parking area for tour departures.

Wayne State College offers the college credit course option for this conference.

We especially want to thank our presenters and tour leaders who represent a variety of institutions. They, of course, are the backbone to providing such a quality experience for all of the participants.

But most importantly, we wish to thank you, the participants at the 12th annual Sand Hills Discovery Experience.

Please make plans to attend the 13th annual Sand Hills Discovery Experience in July 2014.

www.sandhillsdiscovery.org

