

Sandhills Discovery Foundation



“The Sandhills: Water, Sand, and Grass”

Friday, July 14, 2017

Ainsworth High School

520 E. 2nd Street

Ainsworth, Nebraska

Presenters:

- **Susan Cook - The Homestead Act in the Sandhills**
- **Nancy Gillis - The Homestead Act’s Impact on Native Americans**
- **Mary Bomberger Brown - The Sandhills Prairie Chicken Research Project**
- **Dr. Jim Swinehart – Geology of the Sandhills**

Break-out Sessions:

- **Mike Voorhies, professor emeritus, UN-L Paleontologist**
- **Chuck Rowling – Water for Food Health Project**

Exhibitors, vendors, continental breakfast and a catered lunch are included in the full day registration fee. Informative tours are available on Wednesday and Thursday to those registered for the Friday conference.

COLLEGE CREDIT OFFERED

One-hour senior/graduate credit in education is also offered, at an additional fee, by Wayne State College. For more information on college credit, contact Wayne State College, 1111 Main St., Wayne, NE 68787 - phone 1-800-228-9972.

16th Annual “Sandhills Discovery Experience” Schedule

8:00-8:45 am - Registration and continental breakfast

Fee: \$50 (*early registration-\$45*) per person.

Students under 18 may attend free of charge if accompanying an adult with paid registration.

8:45-9:00 - Opening of conference

9:00-12:00 - Presentations

12:00-1:00 - Lunch (included with full day registration)

1:00-4:30 - Presentations continue. Vendors and exhibitors will be on site until 5:00 p.m.

More information at www.sandhillsdiscovery.org

For lodging or general information, call the North Central Development Center, 402-387-2740 or (866-387-2740 toll free).

Pre and Post Conference Tours

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

1. Fossil Dig

9:00am – 12:00pm

Fee \$15.00

*Meet at the Rock County Fairgrounds in Bassett at 8:45am for carpooling.

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

2. Niobrara Valley Preserve

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Fee \$10.00

* Meet at the Ainsworth Conference Center North parking lot at 2:15 pm for carpooling.

Experience nature in the Sandhills near the Niobrara River. This escorted tour will take you through the Niobrara Valley Preserve to view the prairie grasses, bison herd and other wildlife.

3. Supper at Niobrara Valley Preserve

5:30pm – ?

Fee \$25.00

* Meet at the Ainsworth Conference Center North parking lot at 4:45 pm for carpooling.

Enjoy a catered meal with all the trimmings. Following the meal, Amanda Hefner will give a talk on prairie plants, water, ecology and stewardship.

Thursday, July 13, 2017

1. Fossil Dig

9:00am – 12:00pm

Fee \$15.00

*Meet at the Rock County Fairgrounds in Bassett at 8:45am for carpooling.

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

2. Tour of Sinte Gleska University in Mission, South Dakota

10:00am - 3:00pm

Fee \$40.00

* Meet at the Ainsworth Conference Center North parking lot at 8:00 am for carpooling.

A unique opportunity to experience an escorted tour of Sinte Gleska University on the Rosebud Indian Reservation. Several tribal leaders will give morning and afternoon talks detailing the history of the Sicangu Sioux Tribe. Lunch is included.

3. Heritage House Museum and Railroad Bridge in Long Pine

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Fee \$5.00

* Meet at the Ainsworth Conference Center North parking lot at 1:45 pm for carpooling.

See interesting history of the Sandhills displayed in this converted railroad rooming house. We will also view Long Pine Creek by walking across the Long Pine Railroad Bridge on the Cowboy Trail.

General Information: Tours are held in conjunction with the Sandhills Discovery Experience and are limited to registered conference attendees. **As transportation is not provided, carpooling is encouraged.** Return times are approximate. Plan to bring necessary outdoors items, such as sunscreen, bug spray, sunglasses, hats, comfortable, sturdy shoes and a water bottle. Some tours are limited in size and will be filled on first come, first served basis.

SANDHILLS DISCOVERY REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone(s) _____

Email _____

Pre-registration requested by July 1, 2017

Number adults attending _____ @ \$50 each (\$45 registration before 07/01/17) = \$ _____

Number students** attending _____ with adult Student Name(s) _____

Number adults attending _____ @ \$20 each for ½ day conference (Lunch not included) \$ _____

Number attending Tour #1 _____ @ \$15 each adult = \$ _____
(Wed. Fossil Dig)
_____ @ Free student rate

Number attending Tour #2 _____ @ \$10 each adult = \$ _____
(Niobrara Valley Preserve)
_____ @ Free student rate

Number attending Tour #3 _____ @ \$25 each adult = \$ _____
(Niobrara Preserve dinner)
_____ @ \$10 student rate=\$ _____

Number attending Tour #4 _____ @ \$15 each adult = \$ _____
(Thursday Fossil Dig)
_____ @ Free student rate

Number attending Tour #5 _____ @ \$40 each adult = \$ _____
(Sinte Gleska University)
_____ @ \$10 student rate=\$ _____

Number attending Tour #6 _____ @ \$5 each adult = \$ _____
(Heritage House Museum)
_____ @ Free student rate

Subtotal \$ _____

(Subtract \$5 if a Sandhills Discovery Foundation member*) \$ _____

* See website for membership info

Total fees \$ _____

**Students under 18 may attend the all events free of charge (except tours #3 and 5) when accompanying an adult with paid registration.

Make checks payable to Sandhills Discovery Foundation and mail to PO Box 444, Ainsworth, NE 69210.