



Distance Learning Symposium

Homestead National Monument of America

July 28, 2009

Homestead National Monument of America and its partner Educational Service Unit #5 invite National Park Service personnel to a distance learning symposium. This symposium will cover topics such as how to purchase distance learning technology, how to use distance learning technology and best practices for using distance learning technology.

DATE: July 28, 2009

PARTICIPANTS: This service-wide workshop is for all field interpreters, education coordinators, information technology staff, and supervisors who want to explore using or currently use distance learning technology.

SESSIONS: Participants may attend all sessions except the technical training session which is for those agencies who are currently partners with Southeast Nebraska Distance Learning Contract (SNDLC). There is an optional distance learning connection at 7:00 p.m. with the Great Barrier Reef.

8:00 - 8:45 a.m. WHY BUY A DISTANCE LEARNING SYSTEM?
This session will cover the advantages of having a distance learning system. It will also cover in detail what components are needed for a distance learning system. In addition to the components, how to contract for the additional items such as fiber-optic cable and technical support are covered.

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. WHERE CAN WE GO TECHNOLOGICALLY & HOW DO WE GET THERE?
The goal is to have people visit your agency through the technology, but it is important to network with other parks/organizations. This session covers places you can currently visit and a discussion of the technologies used for video conferences.

10:15 - 11:45 a.m. BEST PRACTICES
This session provides participants with some best practices for presenting a distance learning lecture. Participants can share and ask questions of each other on what is working and what has not worked. It also provides those who have not purchased the technology an overview of what they will need to develop and how to use the technology when available.

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. LUNCH
Homestead National Monument of America is located 4 miles west of Beatrice and therefore not easily accessible for lunch. Lunch will be provided on-site and is estimated to be around \$10. Please advise when registering if there are any special dietary needs.

- 1:00 -1:45 p.m. HOW DO I FUND A DISTANCE LEARNING SYSTEM?**
Installing the technology can be expensive and this session will focus on other funding sources.
- 1:00 -3:00 p.m. TECHNICAL TRAINING (FOR PARTNERS ONLY)**
This session is for the current partners to upgrade their systems. All partners need these upgrades and should contact Don Ferneding with questions.
- 2:00 -2:45 p.m. CONNECTIVITY**
This session covers some of the options available such as broadband, cable, T-1 lines etc that need to be addressed when purchasing the technology.
- 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. FUTURE TECHNOLOGY**
This session covers emerging technologies and how they can be used with a distance learning system.
- 7:00 p.m. GREAT BARRIER REEF (Optional)**
This session can only be held at this time due to the time delay.
See the Great Barrier Reef through distance learning technology.

LOCATION: Homestead National Monument of America, Education Center

FUNDING: Benefiting account will cover travel, per diem and all other costs.
There is no tuition for this symposium.

APPLICATION: To attend the symposium email, fax, or mail the attached form to
Tina Miller, Education Coordinator tina_miller@nps.gov
8523 W State Hwy 4 (402) 223-3514 phone
Beatrice, NE 68310 (402) 228-4231 fax

LODGING: Information on lodging in the Beatrice area may be found at the following website:
<http://visitbeatrice.com/lodging.html>.

AIR TRAVEL: Participants may fly in to Lincoln or Omaha, Nebraska. Rental car service is available at both airports.

AREA

INFORMATION: There are many things to see while visiting the local area. Information on area attractions may be found at <http://visitbeatrice.com/attractions.html>.

QUESTIONS ABOUT ATTENDING: Contact Tina Miller (402) 223-3514 phone or tina_miller@nps.gov.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JULY 1, 2009.



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Registration Form

(please fill out a form for each person attending)

Attendee: _____

Title: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Do you currently have a distance learning system? Yes No

What type of system is it? (i.e. Polycom) _____

Are you a current educational partner with

Southeast Nebraska Distance Learning Contract (SNDLC)? Yes No

Would you be interested in becoming an educational partner? Yes No

Do you have any special dietary needs?

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