2015 ISU Geology Alumni Reunion

The Department of Geological & Atmospheric Sciences is proud to announce that we are well along in our second phase of renovation of the Carl F. Vondra Geology Field Station. During Phase I, which was completed in 2010, we built a fabulous new main building with kitchen, dining room/classroom, and staff quarters. For Phase II, we are constructing two dormitory buildings, each with six bedrooms that can accommodate up to four people, as well as a third building with a classroom on one side and a laundry with two toilets and two showers on the other side. With this project we will have a world-class facility commensurate with the long-standing excellence of our field program and that is already being sought out for use by a host of outside academic and industry groups. The Phase II renovation was made possible through the generosity of Tom and Evonne Smith, with a major supplementary gift from Gary and Sandra Johnson.

To celebrate this spectacular new field station, we invite you to join us at camp this summer for a weekend of fun-filled events. Special guests will include our Dean, Beate Schmittmann, and, tentatively, Iowa State University President Steven Leath. Our previous alumni gatherings at field camp have been absolutely wonderful. We expect this one to be the biggest and best ever.

Schedule of Events

Friday, July 3

The official events kickoff Saturday morning. However, you are welcome to arrive on Friday and stay at camp that night. We’ll provide dinner (7:00 pm), but there will be no other formal activities that day. Those who arrive early may be pressed into service to help with preparations!

Saturday, July 4

8:00 am  Continental breakfast at the field station

9-11 am  Main welcoming and arrival.

11:00 am  Choice of:

- Hike in scenic Coyote Basin. View nearby petroglyphs.
- Fossil collecting in the Sundance Formation.

Alternate hot-weather activity:

- Hike and fossil collecting at Hunt Mountain.

All groups will bring sack lunches from the field station.

5:00 pm  Dedication of new buildings at camp

6:00 pm  Dinner with program to follow at the Shell Community Center.
Sunday, July 5

8:00 am  Breakfast at the field station

9:30 am  Depart field camp for Cody, with choice of:

- Heart Mountain Interpretative Center – at the site of the World War II-era Japanese-American Relocation Center. The old main building and student barracks at camp were derived from this facility. One of these, Tensleep, is being returned to the Heart Mountain site to become part of the museum exhibit. Group entry fee is $5 for ages 12 and over, free under 12. Our group will receive a private tour at 11:00 am.
- Buffalo Bill Historical Center – For those of you who have not recently been to the BBHC, it is truly a world-class museum. Group rate entry fee is $14 for adults, $8.00 for ages 6-17, free under 6. Admission is good for two days.

12:30 pm  Group Lunch at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center.

Afternoon  Cody:

- Buffalo Bill Historical Center (see above).
- Rafting on the Shoshone River – Always a great family activity. We’ve reserved spots with Wyoming River Trips (http://www.wyomingrivertrips.com/) for an excursion through Red Rock Canyon. Assembly time is 3:00 pm, which will allow some afternoon time at the BBHC or otherwise touring Cody. Cost is $27 for ages 13 and older, $25 for under 13 (this is a 20% discount from the standard rate). We’ll be back at their office and ready to return to field camp at 5:00 pm plus or minus depending on the river flow.

7:00 pm  Dinner at the field station

Monday, July 6

8:00 am  Breakfast at the field station and farewells