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Newsletter

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O'BANNON STATE PARK



Photo courtesy of:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/O'Bannon_Woods_State_Park

The O'Bannon Woods State Park (formerly Wyandotte Woods State Recreation Area) is located in Corydon Indiana, in the southern part of the state that borders the Ohio River. The park is inside the 26,000-acre Harrison Crawford State Forest.

The Park recently acquired EB100 Eco-boxes. They will be placed on nature trails throughout the park. The tour messages will be in English. Tour-Mate worked with the park to record the scripts.

Jarrett Manek, an O'Bannon State Park Naturalist stated, "The Access to Recreation Initiative, supported by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Harrison County Community Foundation, will allow O'Bannon Woods State Park to enhance accessibility and construct a new, one-mile forest resource trail at this southern Indiana site. With grant funds, the state park highlighted special areas of interest along the trail where the Tour-Mate Eco-boxes will help to tell the story about the park and surrounding area. The areas of interest include a frog pond with wildlife viewing blind overlooking food plots, a historic site, sensory gardens, and the 1800 era pioneer farmstead and haypress."

Visitors will be able to experience the various sounds of nature and wildlife that are native to the park, such as elk, bison and timberwolves. The tour will provide visitors with explanations about the park; its habitat, and larger wildlife descriptions.

The Eco-Box is an ecological solution for providing tours in outdoor spaces. It is lead free and was designed to have a minimal carbon footprint on the surrounding environment. To operate it, the visitor turns the crank located on the front of the box and pushes a button to listen to the desired message.

For more info on the park, please see:
<http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2976.htm>

FIND US NEXT AT:



Fountainhead Automotive Museum

Based in Fairbanks, Alaska, this museum focuses on cars, vintage fashion, and Alaskan history. They recently installed their first audio tour system with the purchase of a Tour-Mate SC550 Listening Wand system. The Museum collection features over 60 historically significant automobiles produced in the United States prior to World War II. Also on display are historical Alaskan photographs that showcase the vintage collection of cars. The Museum is owned by Fountainhead Development, Inc.

For more information please see:
<http://www.fountainheadhotels.com/auto/autocollection.htm>

Vancouver's Cultural Olympiad – Out From Under: Disability, History, and Things to Remember

The University of British Columbia exhibit looks at the social history of disability in Canada, and Tour-Mate's SC 550 EL talking keypads were an integral part of the tour.

The tour explains the experiences of people with disabilities and provides a window into the social history of the Canada's disabled community.

Vancouver Sun's, Art Critic, Kevin Griffin said, "*The exhibition also includes the best audio tour I've ever heard.*"

**COME VISIT
US AT:**

CMA
ST. JOHN'S, NFLD
AT BOOTH #16
MAY 12-13, 2010

AAM
LOS ANGELES, CA
AT BOOTH #1312
MAY 24-26, 2010

APGA
ATLANTA, GA
JUNE 2-3, 2010

Product Update – Group Guide TM 300

Tour-Mate has expanded its line of Group Guide Tour systems. The TM 300 Group Guide system provides the latest in wireless communication, offering up to 96 selectable transmission channels. Both transmitters and receivers are lightweight and easy to use. The TM 300 system provides clear communication for everyone, even in busy or loud environments.

Group guide systems can provide an enhanced group ‘visit experience’. Additionally, group guide systems can help groups move more efficiently through a museum space. One tour guide can speak to many people simultaneously, and visitors can enjoy an interpretative experience without having to strain to hear the tour guide.

In addition to offering the new TM 300, we also offer a series of group guide systems provided by Listen Tech. Contact us if your facility would like to implement a group guide tour system.



TM 300 Group Guide Receiver

A FIRST FOR THE NAUTILUS

The historic USS NAUTILUS can be found at the Submarine Force Museum, located at Thames River in Groton, Connecticut. The Nautilus was the first nuclear powered submarine in the world.

Tour-Mate provided The NAUTILUS with its SC550-EL Listening Wand system. The tour is available in

English, Spanish, Mandarin, and Japanese. The tour provides visitors with details about various areas of the ship including the main hall, torpedo rooms and the attack center.

The EL version of the Listening Wand incorporates a ‘talking keypad’ which assists visitors with visual disabilities by providing voice prompts of individual key strokes.

This historic craft was sent to sea by President Harry S. Truman at the Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, Connecticut on June 14, 1952. Now retired from active duty, this historic ship continues to amaze and educate those who board her.



Photo courtesy of:
<http://www.usснаutilus.org/virtualTour/index.shtml>

Adam's Story

Adam Schweitzer, was recently promoted to the position of Project Director. He is responsible for Tour-Mate's sales activities in the mid-western U.S. states as well as in the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Adam recently spent a great deal of time on the road getting to know many of Tour-Mate's clients. One of his recent projects is the Fountainhead Antique Automobile Museum in Fairbanks, AK.

Adam is a native Ohioan, a graduate of Bowling Green State University, and has a degree in Tourism Administration. Having worked in a variety of Tourism/Hospitality venues including hotels, attractions, and dining facilities, this former tour guide brings his knowledge of the tourism industry to Tour-Mate.



When not working, Adam enjoys watching sports (Go Cavs!), exercising, movies, and walking Marnie (the office mascot and Manager of Office Morale).

Adam will be part of Tour-Mate's staff at AAM so please drop by and say hello. You can reach Adam at aschweitzer@tourmate.com



About Tour-Mate

Headquartered in Toronto, Tour-Mate develops and markets self-guided audio tour systems for the interpretive market. We have installed systems in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Puerto Rico, Barbados, Japan, Australia, Switzerland, China and Macao. Millions of visitors have experienced Tour-Mate audio tours in museums, art galleries, historic sites, zoos, aquariums, and botanical gardens. Our high quality, easy to use hardware and creative approach to content creation ensures each visitor a significantly enhanced visit experience. Tour-Mate has over 20 years of experience, including the provision of audio tours to attractions such as the *Art Gallery of Ontario*, *Montreal Museum of Fine Arts*, *Vancouver Art Gallery*, *Mount Rushmore*, the *Walt Disney Concert Hall*, and the *Corning Museum of Glass*. Our commitment to customer service is second to none. For more information please visit: www.tourmate.com

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