

Iowa Association of Naturalists

2003 Annual Report

Executive Committee

President: Heidi Anderson

Vice President: Kelly Sonnicksen

Treasurer: Greg Wolf

Secretary: Linda R.F. Zaletel

Workshop Coordinator: Wes Wiese

Membership: 178 paid and honorary members

Meetings:

Spring Workshop: Wikiup – Hill, Linn County Conservation Board - March 12-14, 2003

Preworkshop: Walleye Fishing on the Mississippi, Behind the Scenes Tour to Exhibit Planning, GPS workshop.

Featured: Language & Teaching Acceptable to the Native community, Overnight Trip Panel Discussion, The Math, Science, and History Behind the Tipi, Bow Drill 1, What is in My Trunk?, Green Bike tour, Bow Drill II, Earth Watch Exploration: The Case of the Peruvian Amazon, Evening Hike to the Mounds, Demonstration on Flint Napping, Learning Styles, The Atlatl, How to Manage Your Own Business on the Side, Seeing the Stars, Who Lived Here – How & When.

Attendance: 84

Summer Outing: Mighty Mississippi: The Heartbeat of the Land, Clinton County Conservation Board Blue Heron Pontoon Boat (Musselling, fish sampling, turtle trapping, birding, seeing nuclear power on the River, traveling the mouth of the Wapsipinicon River and visiting Princeton Beach); Soaring Eagles Nature Center; Bickelhaupt Arboretum Tour, Disc Golf, Evening canoe float on the Mississippi backwaters and travel on the Blue Heron Pontoon Boat (visit beaver Island, Lock though and tour Lock & Dam #13, and observe industrial and commercial uses of the Mississippi.

Attendance: 20

Fall Meeting: IAN Fall Workshop, Cerro Gordo Conservation – November 19-21, 2003.

Preworkshop: Iowa Pheasant Hunt, Harnessing Our Natural Resources

Featured: Liability and You, Toddling in Nature, The Alternative to Budget Cuts, Community Sustainable Agriculture, Body Parts!, EPA Superfund Site – An Industry's Perspective, Newsletters, E Literate, No Child Left Behind, Self Sustaining Education Touring Program, Nature on the Playground, The Nuts and bolts of Non-profit Groups, and Firefighting

Attendance: 92

The Executive Committee met four times during the year: January 13; March 12; July 18; November 19, 2003.

Committees

Nine standing committees and thirteen subcommittees were in existence in 2003

Promotions

Fundraising
Web Page
Junior Naturalist
Mentoring

Professional Development

Standards for Internships
Professional Development
ICEC/IAN Awards
Scholarships
Joe Halbur Memorial Scholarship

Administrative Tasks

Thirteen administrative tasks were the responsibility of the ExCom during 2003.

Archive/Records	Elections
DNR Liaison	Member Packets and Certificates
NAI Liaison	Policy
ICEC Liaison	Grant Program
Newsletter	Calling Tree
Awards and Recognition	Workshop Planning
2003 Highlights	

2003 Highlights

Professional Development

Application forms were available at the November meeting. The deadline for submission was December 31. Recognition of took place at the March 2003 meeting. The following were certified: Heidi Anderson, Phil Broder, Ann Burns, Dawn Chapman, Katie Dalton, Dana Dettmer, Rochelle Ebel, Charlene Elyea, Anita Fisher, Sunday Ford, Bradley Freidhof, Theresa Kruid, Heather Niec, Michele Olson, Miriam Patton, Mark Roberts, Kelly Sonnichsen, Laura Surber, Shane Vondracek, Greg Wolf, Amy Yoakum and Linda Zaletel. First time recipients were Kathy Dice, Laura Elfers, Katie Garms, Jacklyn Gautsch, Sheila Moore, Tina Popson, and Tessa Pugh. Jerry Keys was a 5-year recipient and Ann Burns is a 10 year recipient!

Scholarships

Scholarships were given to Rochelle Ebel from Lyon CCB \$50 to attend the fall IAN conference and Julie Brazell had received a \$75 scholarship for Region V.

Awards Program

The Iowa Association of Naturalists (IAN) and the Iowa Conservation Education Council (ICEC) presented the following Environmental Education Excellence Awards

\$Aldo Leopold Environmental Education Award:

- Judy Levings, ISU 4H Extension
- \$Chris Holt Youth Environmental Education Award:
Clinton County Conservation Board Enhanced Hunter Education
- \$Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award:
Mark Aronson, Biology Department at Scott Community College in Bettendorf
- \$Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (pop. >35,000):
Polk County Conservation
- \$Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (pop. <35,000):
Dickinson County Conservation
- \$Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award:
Erwin E. Klaas, ISU, US Geological Survey, retired.
- \$"Ding" Darling Environmental Education Award:
Blue Heron Eco Cruises, Clinton County Conservation Board.

IAN Mentoring Program

A mole program was begun at the spring IAN meeting. Several members were appointed to mingle with new members and match them up with veteran naturalists. Several regional groups of IAN members now meet at mini-workshops. Veteran members can share ideas and mentor new members.

Mentee	Mentor
Charlie Bray (Wright)	Karen Roosa-Hansen (Webster)
Ben Schlader (Pocahontas)	Aaron Herschberg (Carroll)
Josh Carr (Cherokee)	Kelly Sonnichsen (Crawford)
Kristi Karwal (Des Moines)	Karen Jolas-Szalkowski (Lee)
Angi Reid (Madison)	Heidi Anderson (Polk)
Lisa Anderson (Plymouth)	Charlene Elyea (O'Brien)
Carrie Johnson (Lee)	Pam Holz (Washington)
Nicole Moestchen (Jackson)	Michelle Olson (Jones)
Linda Roy (Scott)	Greg Wolf (Clinton)

Standards for Internships

These standards were developed for the Interpretive Naturalist Interns. This publication outlines the knowledge and skills an intern should possess opportunities to develop while working as an intern, and the role of the intern-s supervisors. The completed standards were available at the fall meeting and are now on the web site.

Master Conservationist

IAN will again sponsor the Master Conservationist Program at a cost of \$250 with 10 workshops. The cost covered the IAN booklets provided to each participant. This program will run for two years.

Junior Naturalist Program

A new patch design of the Iowa Wild Rose is being designed and will be added to the rotation.

Joe Halbur Scholarship

A total of \$502 was raised in 2003 to help reach the goal of \$5,000 in the Joe Halbur Scholarship fund. Scholarship criteria were developed, and the first scholarships were offered in November 2003. Three people applied, but they were not going into the environmental field. Therefore, no scholarships were awarded. There has been discussion about reevaluating the direction of this scholarship for 2004.

Newsletter

Three newsletters were produced and distributed. After looking at costs of the newsletter it was decided to use a thinner paper and a different printer. Costs savings was over \$300. During the November meeting it was voted to produce the newsletter for electronic distribution. The last printed will be the January 2004 newsletter. All newsletters will now be delivered by the email system.

Grants

In 2002, IAN awarded a grant to Larry Stone to help publish Sylvan's biography. The new book, *Sylvan T. Runkel: Citizen of the Natural World*, by Larry A. Stone and Jon W. Stravers, shares some of Sylvan's favorite stories, while shedding fresh insights on the heritage and experiences that shaped his remarkable life. (Left off last years report)

REAP/CEP Grant Program

IAN proposed a new series of booklets for the natural. The proposal was for a series of three booklets on Native Americans of Iowa. 1. Archaeology/Ancient Iowa's (or Prehistoric Native Americans). 1. Native Americans of Iowa. 3. Native Technology: How Did They Do That? IAN did not receive funding. The IAN committee will look at other sources of funding.

IAN Web Page

The IAN web page is running fine, (www.ianpage.20m.com). The web site includes the *Guide to Interpretive Services*, grant applications, intern standards available to download, job announcements, and a member's chat room.

Fund Raising

A total of \$1,288.50 was raised at the fall auction 2003.