



# The Web

Newsletter of the Iowa Association of Naturalists



**IAN Fall Workshop (pages 10-12)!**

## IAN History

Linda R.F. Zaletel, IAN President

Recently, Darrin Siefken and I spent a day at the Iowa State University Library archives looking through the three boxes of IAN materials that are stored there. It was like watching the history channel — except we were reading. IAN history is nicely stored and cataloged. It's amazing to see how an organization starts, how it progresses, and what information is lost.

Darrin and I were looking for "lost" information in the archives for the IAN guidelines. It was mentioned in the minutes that there were some guidelines being developed, but we did not find them. They just disappeared! We also noticed that the only newsletters in the file were up to 1993! However, we could tell by looking in the archives that IAN has accomplished a lot through the years.

I'm one of the oldies in the group, although I wasn't a founding member. I do remember my first workshop. It was 1984 at the

Indian Creek Nature Center near Cedar Rapids. I also remember my first auction at Lime Creek Nature Center. It was a wild and woolly night of bidding, and we came home with plenty of skulls! I also remember laughing so hard my sides hurt and all the cool stuff that was up for auction. I still enjoy a good bidding war, especially if a quilt is involved!

Now, back to the history. We do need to fill in the gaps in the

archives. If you have any old information on IAN, bring it to the November meeting. I'll put a box up front; just drop the information in there, and I'll sort it out.

The older I get, I realize some of the early information about IAN has not been passed on to all you newbies out there! It's really important to preserve and share our IAN history!



### Knowing Your Roots

#### A Historical Timeline of the Iowa Association of Naturalists

- First questionnaire regarding Iowa's Naturalists 1976
- Founding of IAN 1978  
(Mark Wagner and Wendy Zohrer are founding members still in IAN)
- First meeting February 4, 1978  
Camp EWALU was the first official meeting of Iowa naturalist group. The official name "Iowa Association of Naturalists" was chosen at the meeting. At the meeting Sylvan Runkel was made an honorary lifetime member!
- First President Mary Duritsa  
(Vice President, Mark Wagner; Secretary/Treasurer, Lee Lee)
- First Editor of the official Newsletter Joe Halbur, CCB
- First Survey of Salaries November, 1982
- First Printing Guide to EE Services 1983
- Professional Standards for an Interpretive Naturalists 1988
- Nature Center Standards 1989
- Professional Development Program 1990-91
- First Environmental Booklet Series 1991
- Feasibility Assessment for a Residential Environmental Education Center in Eastern Iowa 1991
- Junior Naturalist Program (fox patch) 1996
- Standards for the Use of Live Native Animals in EE 1994
- First promotes SEEDS Legislation. 1995  
(Statewide Environmental Education Development Strategy)
- Development of Creating A Long-term Plan For An Environmental Education Program 1993
- First Interpretive courses taught at ISU by Jim Pease 1984
- Hosts first NAI National Conference 2001
- Professional Standards for an Interpretive Naturalist Intern 2002

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## Conservation and EE Excellence Awards Application Information

Individuals may nominate themselves or another individual or organization for Conservation and Environmental Education Awards (see page 4). Award forms should not exceed three pages, plus one support item (such as a guide, video, or photograph). The supporting item should not be a substitute for required information. Typewritten responses are appreciated. Materials will not be returned. Please submit a separate form for each nomination. All nomination information will be kept confidential, except for winner notification and publicity purposes.

The application submission deadline is December 1, 2004. Check on the web for examples of past winning nominations: <http://www.iowaee.org/icec2003awards.html>. Contact Judy Levings (see below) for more information about the Awards program. Completed forms and supporting narratives should be sent to:

Judy Levings  
Extension & 4-H Youth Building, ISU  
Ames, IA 50011- 3630  
Phone: 515-294-4764  
E-mail: [jlevings@iastate.edu](mailto:jlevings@iastate.edu)



*Ada Hayden is one of the famous conservationist for whom an EE Excellence Award is named.*

## Governor's Awards

Amy Yoakum, Naturalist, Story CCB

Several IAN members received the Governor's *Above and Beyond* award at a ceremony in Des Moines April 27. The awards were presented to groups and individuals who give their time, energy and talents to improve the lives of Iowa's children by raising environmental and conservation awareness through education programs and hands-on projects. Governor Tom Vilsack and Iowa Department of Natural Resources Director, Jeffery Vonk presented the award recipients with a certificate. Congratulations to the following award recipients!

- Karen Hansen
- Linda Zaletel
- Sunday Ford
- Mike Havlik
- Karess Knudtson
- Robert Rye
- Des Moines CCB Flint Creek Advisory Com.
- and Polk CCB

## Info-Sheets for Environmental Educators

<http://eelink.net/>

The EETAP (Environmental Education Training and Partnership) Resource Library was started by Ohio State University to make EE resources more accessible to environmental educators. A major component of the Library is Info-Sheets (1-2 page descriptions that summarize a specific EE topic and identify resources for additional reading). The Info-Sheets help educators better understand specific topics related to EE and are organized into eight major categories: History of EE; Resources for Teaching; Academic Resources; Public Understanding of EE; Capacity Building; Assessment and Evaluation; Decision-making; and Environmental Topics. New Info-Sheets continue to be added to the EETAP Resource Library collection. Check out the web site for more information: <http://eelink.net/eetapresourceibrary.html>.



# 2004 IAN Executive Committee Elections

Kelly Sonnichsen, IAN Vice President

Vote now in the IAN Executive Committee (ExCom) election. Excellent candidates are running for two seats on the ExCom. Greg Wolf is up for re-election. Read the candidate information below, and mail the ballot to Kelly Sonnichsen before October 22. Special thanks to Wes Weiss for his past service on the Executive Committee.



The ExCom is urging the membership to VOTE in the Fall IAN Election! We need ALL members to participate. The numbers of members who vote for officers has been declining in recent years. Votes will only be counted if they are on paper ballots by mail. No voting by email! Sorry! If you would like to become more involved in IAN, but don't want to run for ExCom right away, become involved in one of IAN's working committees. Committee lists and chair contacts are available on the IAN web site.

## **Lisa Anderson, Naturalist, Plymouth CCB**

"Hello! My first year has been amazing! It has gone by too fast. To everyone who has helped me settle in and feel welcome- Thank You! The exchange of ideas, the learning opportunities, and the professional growth make IAN a wonderful support group. It is truly a beautiful experience to be a part of a great community like IAN! Now I want to dive into my second year and give back to IAN by serving on ExCom. I would love the opportunity to contribute to a great organization!"

## **Joe Boyles, Polk CCB Naturalist**

"I have been a naturalist for Polk County for almost 6 years now, and being a member of IAN during that time has enhanced my professional growth in many ways. I am seeking a position on the ExCom so I can give back to IAN and the profession that has changed my life in such a positive manner. I have quite a diverse background, which will bring an open mind and an ability to look at things from different angles. These qualities, along with my experience as an officer for conservation groups and leading large projects, will allow me to help IAN continue its vital role in the state of Iowa."

## **Katie Cantu, Naturalist, Jasper CCB**

"My name is Katie Cantu and I am the naturalist in Jasper County. Many of you may still remember me by my maiden name, Katie Garms. I've been in Jasper County for 3 years. IAN has been a huge asset to me in my career. I especially enjoy networking with other naturalists to see what works in their counties and to get new ideas. This is truly a great group of individuals. I would love to give back to an organization that has already given me so much. ExCom would be another great opportunity for my professional growth."

## **Katie Dalton, Langwood Program Director, Louisa CCB**

"Hi! I have been an environmental educator in Louisa County for the past five years. I currently serve as the fundraising committee chair for IAN and as the SE Iowa regional coordinator for E-literate (as well as my other jobs/hobbies which include fire fighting, hunting, fishing, backpacking and canoeing). IAN workshops have been a vital part of my professional development from meeting new people to sharing program ideas. IAN is a wonderful asset to both new and old naturalists, I learn something new at every workshop. I would like to become more active in IAN by serving on the ExCom."

## **Greg Wolf, Naturalist, Clinton CCB**

"Hello all! I am currently serving as the treasurer and believe or not I enjoy the job (am I crazy or what?). I would like to continue to serve IAN as a member of ExCom. Being treasurer, I have gain valuable experience and growth. IAN is an ever growing organization that benefits us all and I can bring all the needed enthusiasm for the position."

----- cut and mail -----

Read the candidate information above, check (✓) your **two choices**, and mail this ballot before October 22!

- Lisa Anderson, Naturalist, Plymouth CCB**
- Joe Boyles, Polk CCB Naturalist**
- Katie Cantu, Naturalist, Jasper CCB**
- Katie Dalton, Langwood Program Director, Louisa CCB**
- Greg Wolf, Naturalist, Clinton CCB**

<p>Mail to: IAN ExCom Ballot c/o Kelly Sonnichsen Crawford CCB 2237 Yellow Smoke Road Denison, IA 51422 (only mailed paper ballots will be counted)</p>
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# 2004 Conservation and Environmental Education Excellence Award Categories

Know a person, program, or organization that hasn't received the recognition they deserve for their conservation and environmental education efforts? Now is your chance to rectify that! Nominations are being accepted for the Iowa Association of Naturalists and the Iowa Conservation Education Council's 2004 Conservation and Environmental Education Excellence Awards Program. The Awards Program serves many functions. It recognizes those efforts to promote conservation and environmental education, rewards those involved, and publicizes and expands awareness of the excellent programs happening across the state. It's also useful in gaining local support and recognition as well as self-promotion.

**Application information is on page 5.** Awards are given in the following categories:

- **Aldo Leopold Environmental Education Award:  
For Lifetime Achievement in EE Excellence and Leadership**

This award may be given to an individual or an organization. Provide a description of exemplary service in the field of environmental education including number of years, accomplishments, and service to community or state organizations.
- **Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award:  
For Outstanding Efforts by an Environmental Educator**

This award will recognize a formal or non-formal educator for innovative EE programming beyond her/his job expectations. Describe overall involvement in EE including innovative programming and how this individual has performed beyond job requirements. One reference letter may be included.
- **Chris Holt Youth Environmental Education Award:  
For an Outstanding EE Program for Youth or Conducted by Youth (Preschool-Grade 12)**

This award may be presented to an individual or a group. Describe the program's uniqueness, the benefits to youth and the community, and student involvement.
- **"Ding" Darling Environmental Education Award:  
For Outstanding EE Program or Event which Informs and Educates the General Public**

This award may be presented to an individual or an organization for an annual event, ongoing program, or one-time special event. Describe the program or project and how it was particularly creative and effective. Describe how the program/project was evaluated, including numbers of individuals reached.
- **Sylvan Runkel Environmental Education School Award:  
For Outstanding Whole-School EE Program**

Describe the overall program, including whole school involvement, cross-disciplinary approach, support by administration and staff, innovative uses of outdoor classrooms, how the program benefits the community, and student involvement. Student and parent comments may be included.
- **Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (pop. < 35,000)**
- **Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (pop. > 35,000)  
For Excellence in EE Programming by a County Conservation Board**

Describe examples of effective programs uniquely suited to the local EE needs within the county. Other items considered for judging may include: county population, brief history of program; goals and evaluations of program; creative programming; staff size, numbers of programs given and number of participants; passive interpretation efforts; and annual EE budget. Consult the IAN EE Program Self-Evaluation Program for other examples. Award recipients in this category cannot reapply for this award the following two years. During that time, the recipients are invited to serve on the review committee for this category.
- **Frederic Leopold Environmental Education Award:  
For Outstanding EE Efforts by Business, Industry, or Labor**

Describe the EE efforts including benefits to the community, the goals of programs, and why the educational efforts were initiated.
- **Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award:  
For Outstanding Efforts to Educate About Preservation, Land Management,  
or Natural Resource Conservation**

This award may be presented to individuals or organizations. Describe the efforts involved in educating others (which may be conservation professionals or private landowners) including the purposes, future plans, and target audiences of the conservation education programs.



# A Matter of Interpretation

Dan Cohen, editor of *The Web*, Buchanan CCB

I have enjoyed the recent debate between the dueling editors of the NAI Region V newsletter, *The Buffalo Bull*. The discussion relates to an interpreter's need to provide accuracy and information, and how Tilden's Principles affect the degree to which providing information is deemed necessary by some interpreters. At issue is Tilden's second principle (see below). The editors were debating whether this statement may be used by a naturalist as an excuse for a lack of knowledge, or a lack of desire to gain knowledge. In sorting out this discussion, I would suggest rethinking what it means to be an interpreter.

Interpreters are educators. They may teach a variety of subject areas, including natural and social sciences, history, literature, etc. Like all good educators, interpreters use many tools and techniques that make them effective. As the field name implies, interpreters rely heavily on interpretive technique. However, the use of the technique does not narrowly define the interpreter. Rather, the technique is a tool applied by the interpreter consciously, methodically, and appropriately. A good interpreter has many other tools and techniques that can be used independently or in concert with interpretation, and understands their use and application.

Interpretive technique as defined by Tilden is very effective, and for good reason. Human intellect is

at its best when it brings together experience, information, and imagination to form realizations. This is the way our brains are wired. This way of learning may have been an evolutionary advantage to our early ancestors, providing greater understanding of their environment before there were encyclopedias and formal education. The need for interpretation in "nonformal" education is stronger than ever, as schools (especially middle and high schools) are pressed to do more "fact-based" teaching and testing, and fewer teachers can find time or resources to provide the "experience" element of interpretation.

It is important to remember that interpretive technique is not for professional use only. Some of the most meaningful interpretation is applied by parents, siblings, and other role models. However, professional interpreters have the advantages of being well practiced and schooled in the technique, and often have at their disposal a more complete and accurate base of knowledge. This knowledge encompasses the facts and information that Tilden recognized as important when he said, "all interpretation includes information."

But remember, interpreters are educators who use many tools and techniques. Sometimes interpretation is not the most practical, expedient, or even most applicable method to provide understanding. Interpreters are often asked to succinctly answer direct questions, write articles and rebut misinformation, and find themselves in classroom or auditorium settings with few interpretive tools or natural elements at their disposal.

The educational goal may be the simple transfer of information. Some tools, such as AV equipment and passive displays, impart important knowledge without an interpretive component. In some cases, providing a base of information can "set the plate" for future interpretive opportunities. A knowledgeable audience is certainly more prepared to form realizations than an audience shrouded in ignorance or misconception.

Interpreters fall into many labels as indicated by job titles such as naturalist, curator, park ranger, education specialist, and more. Each title comes with a long list of duties and responsibilities, each of which requires various techniques and tools. To a large degree, the success of an interpreter depends on his/her ability to master the use and application of these tools and techniques in artful and creative ways. The interpreter is master over the technique; not slave to the method or terminology.



Freeman Tilden

## Tilden's Principles of Interpretation

1. Any interpretation that does not somehow relate what is being displayed or described to something within the personality or experience of the visitor will be sterile.
2. Information, as such, is not interpretation. Interpretation is revelation based upon information. But they are entirely different things. However, all interpretation includes information.
3. Interpretation is an art, which combines many arts, whether the materials presented are scientific, historical, or architectural. Any art is in some degree teachable.
4. The chief aim of interpretation is not instruction, but provocation.
5. Interpretation should aim to present a whole rather than a part, and must address itself to the whole rather than any phase.
6. Interpretation addressed to children should not be a dilution of the presentation to adults, but should follow a fundamentally different approach. To be at its best it will require a separate program.



# Summer Naturalist Outing - *An All Natural Summer at Tobin's Cabin*



**Left:** Maria Koschmeider paddles the waters of Lime Creek.

**Below:** Naturalists explore the plants in the Walkers' prairie.



**Left:** Bruce Walker speaks to the group assembled at the prairie.

**Below:** The world's second largest frying pan, in Brandon, Iowa.

**Below left:** Food, fun, and relaxation around the campfire.

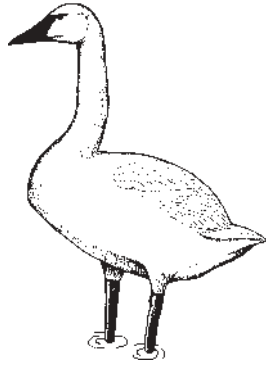


## Workshops and Resources

### NAI Region V Workshop Call for Papers

Contact: Kim Caldwell  
815-678-2219  
kcaldwell@mccdDistrict.org

The NAI Regional Workshop will be held **March 30-April 3, 2005** at the historic Starved Rock State Park Lodge and Conference Center, and the state-of-the-art Starved Rock Visitor's Center. The Planning Committee is now requesting a Call for Papers. The proposal deadline for anyone wishing to present at the Conference is **October 31**.



### Book Review

www.naaee.org

#### ***A Field Guide to Environmental Literacy: Making Strategic Investments in Environmental Education***

By **J. L. Elder**.  
The Environmental Education Coalition; 2003; 110 pp.

A real heightening of our nation's environmental literacy will require momentous educational reforms both inside schools and out. The purpose of this book is to highlight the need for, and potential benefit of, foundation seed funding to promote these reforms. A terrific resource for the library of every funder, administrator, grant writer, Board member, and teacher. 2003, 110 pp.

#### *From the Grapevine*



**Jackson CCB** recently opened the new Hurstville Interpretive Center, one mile north of Maquoketa on Hwy 61. The center will be open for the public Monday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday 12 to 5 p.m.



**Amy Letsche (Ahrends)** and husband Tom had twin girls, Heidi and Julia, on June 11, 2004. Congratulations to the proud parents.

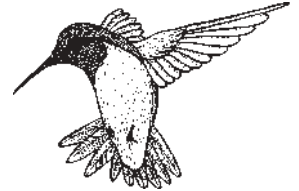
### National Interpreter's Workshop

www.interpnet.com

NAI's National Interpreter's Workshop will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, **November 16-20**. Discover why this area, full of history and heritage, is called the Great Lakes.

### Iowa's Tropical Birds

Contact: Dr. Carl W. Bollwinkel  
319-273-2783 or  
bollwinkel@uni.edu or  
www.uni.edu/ceee/eii



Learn about the neotropical migrant birds of Iowa using the *Solve the Crime: Save the Song of Spring* materials and the Bird Trunks developed with REAP funding. Classroom teachers will team with Naturalists to explore the content background, issues involved, and actions to protect Iowa's neotropical migrant birds, through this *eii* workshop. Workshops will be held at the following locations:

- Dubuque  
November 12-14, 2004 and January 28-29, 2005
- West Des Moines  
February 4-6, 2005 and April 8-9, 2005

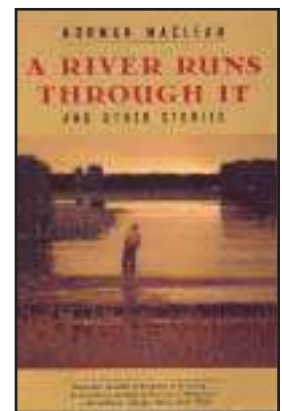
### Book Review

Dan Cohen  
Editor, *The Web*

#### ***A River Runs Through It and Other Stories***

By Norman McLean  
University of Chicago Press  
Chicago, IL; 1976

Norman McLean's is "haunted by waters." The memories of his experiences and relationships are tied together with the fabric of the Big Blackfoot River in Montana. In *A River Runs Through It*, McLean recounts his varied family relationships with his family, his inability to thwart destruction, and his coming to grips with life's meanings, all in the backdrop of the mountains, rivers, and fly fishing. If you liked the movie, you will like the book. In addition to the title story, McLean recounts his experiences working for the Forest Service in two other essays.



## Park Packs – *No Naturalist Required!*

Lori Foresman-Kirpes, Naturalist, Polk CCB

Budget cuts + less staff = time for creative problem solving in delivering environmental education opportunities to the public. One creative solution is *Park Packs*.

The *Park Pack* idea was borrowed from a NAI Region V conference. The idea is to provide quality EE programming/activities without needing EE staff to present a program. *Park Packs* are a creative idea in an era of budget cuts, and decreased staff but increased public demand for environmental programming.

Polk County Conservation Board wrote and received a REAP CEP grant for the development of 10 *Park Packs*. A steering committee was formed to brainstorm topic ideas and activities to be included in the nature packs. The next step was to find sponsorship for each of the *Park Packs* to help defer the material costs. An activity outline was developed and a consistent format implemented into each themed *Park Pack*. Advertising/promotion of the *Park Packs* began in the spring, and families, scout groups, and campers began checking out the packs.

Twenty-three families plus three scout groups used the ten pilot *Park Packs* in May, June, and July. This equated to 392 days of use for the ten packs. Several inquiries from home-schoolers, church groups, and not-for-profit organization have lit up the phone lines for fall programming. Many families have reserved *Park Packs* for the coming months. These nature-themed backpacks have been very popular this summer. Comments from the families and scouts include, "These are Great!", "Perfect for vacation", "It was like Christmas" (referring to activities in the birding park pack), "Lots of material. Wow!" The



*Above: Twenty-three families plus three scout groups used the ten pilot Park Packs in May, June, and July. This equated to 392 days of use for the ten packs.*

main criticism of the *Park Packs* is that a two week checkout period is not long enough. The *Park Packs* can be checked out for FREE by an adult for two weeks. The ten *Park Pack* themes, include: Animals of Iowa, Birds, Creatures of the Night, Geology Rocks!, Insect Safari, Life in Pond, Outdoor Skills, Prairies, Treeific Trees, Wildflowers and Plants. The *Park Packs* have been very popular for the public, and offer families and groups a variety of nature based discovery activities.

Interested in developing *Park Packs* into your environmental education program? Contact Lori Foresman-Kirpes at 515-323-5380 or [lforesm@co.polk.ia.us](mailto:lforesm@co.polk.ia.us) for more information.

## Fundamentals of Environmental Education

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Fundamentals of Environmental Education Online Course, a ten-week on-line course about the fundamentals of environmental education, will be offered this fall (September 13 - November 19, 2004). The course is appropriate for both classroom teachers and for non-formal educators who work with students and/or teachers. Participants may obtain three undergraduate or graduate credits from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. All students, regardless of location, are eligible for the in-state tuition rate. The course is also offered at a reduced cost for those who are not interested in obtaining college credit.

The "Fundamentals of Environmental Education"

course provides educators with the knowledge and skills necessary to incorporate quality environmental education into their instruction. Participants discuss the history, definition, and goals of environmental education; develop an understanding of the professional roles and instructional methods of environmental educators; and interact with other educators from across the country. The Environmental Education and Training Partnership (EETAP) developed the course in collaboration with national EE experts. For more information, please visit [www.eetap.org](http://www.eetap.org) or contact Angela Arkin at [aarkin@uwsp.edu](mailto:aarkin@uwsp.edu).





# Fall Auction Items Needed

Katie Dalton, Louisa CCB



The IAN fall auction is coming up and we are in need of two things; high quality auction items and lots of buyers! The

fall auction is not only a lot of fun, but also our only fundraiser and we need your help to make it great.

All auction items are accepted, however, some of the biggest and best money makers in the past have been things such as: homemade items (wine, beer, jams or jellies), gift baskets, overnight stays, taxidermy mounts and fun naturalist toys. Label your items in case someone has questions as to what it is or where it came from.

The next thing we need is for everyone to stay and help buy stuff. We will try to move it along as fast as possible. Cash and checks are accepted, we can even bill your county. Anyone caught not attending the auction is subject to their friends bidding on stuff for them.

Fall IAN is always fun and the auction is a great

time to meet new people, get new ideas and new toys to play with. Together we can make this year's auction the best ever!

Auctioneer tryouts will be immediately before the auction. Have any questions? Call Katie Dalton at 319-523-8381.

## Here's an Auction Idea

Wes Wiese, Hardin CCB

Let's give this a try, how about making county baskets to auction off this fall. You can make them as simple or as complex as you want. One item you could put in a basket is a program you've developed, complete with materials needed. You could also highlight things found in your county that make it unique, such as tickets for attractions and specialty foods or crafts. If you want, call another naturalist and go in on building a basket together. Let's see how creative people can be with this.

### Fall Workshop Registration

Please take a moment to fill out the form below and return it by October 15 with your fee. Thank you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday Breakfast:** Egg Casserole.....  regular  vegetarian \$5.00  
(bagels/ cream cheese, fresh fruit, juice/milk)

**Thursday Lunch:** Taco Bar, Brownies, Iced Tea/Milk..... \$6.50

**Thursday Dinner:** Vegetarian pasta bake OR stuffed Iowa chop.....  pasta  Iowa chop \$9.20  
(cheesy potatoes, California blend vegetables, salad bar, roll, strawberry dessert iced tea/milk)

**Friday Breakfast:** Breakfast Sandwiches.....  sausage  basil, tomato, cheese \$5.00  
(bagels/cream cheese, fresh fruit, juice/milk)

**Friday Lunch:** Soup and deli sandwich.....  cheeseburger noodle  broccoli cheese \$6.50

**Total Meals** \_\_\_\_\_

#### Pre-Workshop Fee.

CPR Books (for those who need them)..... \$10.00

CPR Wallet Cards..... \$4.00

**Workshop Fee** ..... \$10.00

#### IAN Membership Fees

Renewing Member or  Non-member..... \$20.00

Student Member..... \$10.00

**Total enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Send Registration to: IAN, c/o Greg Wolf (checks payable to IAN)**  
**P.O. Box 68, Grand Mound, IA 52751-0068**



# New Tools of the Trade

## IAN Fall Workshop

November 3– 5, 2004

Hardin County Conservation Board Calkins Nature Center

Iowa Falls, IA

**Complete and mail the Registration Form by October 15 (page 8)**

### Pre-workshop Field Trips Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>

#### Pre-workshops – (meet at the Nature Center)

**1. Pheasant Hunt 12:30 - 4 p.m.**

Help Hardin CCB thin it's pheasant population. Join Chuck Ungs and others as they try to bag some birds. We are looking for a few more dogs to help the hunt. Please call (641) 648-9878 to get signed up.

**2. First Aid/CPR Certification**

**Ken Yeomans, 1- 4 p.m.**

Earn your certification or get recertified in First Aid/CPR. A valuable tool to have in our profession. Please call Calkins to get signed up and let them know if you are a new/or recertification student. There will be some cost. Call (641) 648-9878.

**3. Greenbelt Tour, HCCB Staff, 1-4 p.m.**

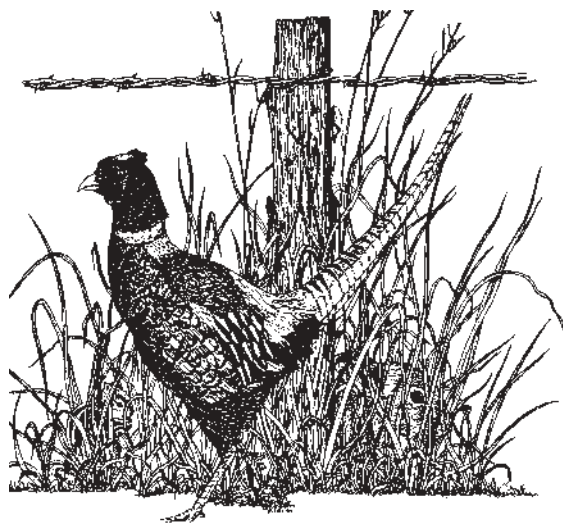
Tour Hardin County's unique landscape with its similarities to Northeast Iowa. We also will tour the new HWY 20 Bridge, one of the few environmentally-friendly built bridges in the United States. Please call (641) 648-9878 to get signed up.

#### 4– 6:30 p.m. Dinner (On your own)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Camp David</b>   | Steak house on the river bluff, featuring steaks, BBQ, and sandwiches                               |
| <b>Porter's on Main</b>   | Steak house featuring steaks, sandwiches, and more.   |
| <b>Water Buffaloes</b>  | Sports Bar featuring excellent pizza & sandwiches   |
| <b>Princess Cafe</b>  | 50's style Soda Fountain Shoppe featuring pizza, steak, sandwiches, and outstanding ice cream menu. |
| <b>Chuong Garden</b>  | Featuring Chinese menu.   |
| <b>Pizza Hut, Pizza Ranch, Dairy Queen, McDonald's, and Taco Tico</b> | <b>also available.</b>  |

#### 7 p.m. Halloween Hike Skit Contest – \$10 entry fee

Enter the Halloween Hike Skit contest. The winning skit takes the jackpot! Skits will be judged on creativity, environmental content, costumes, and feasibility. To reserve a spot call Calkins Nature Center at (641) 648-9878. Contest is limited to 10 entries.



# New Tools of the Trade

## IAN Fall Workshop Schedule

### Thursday, November 4th

**9:00 a.m. Registration**

**9:30 a.m. Discussion of Bylaw Changes**

**9:45 a.m. Introduction and Announcements**

**10:00 a.m. Homestead National Monument of America,  
Amy Garret, Park Ranger**

Homestead Monument has developed a distance learning program at their park. Students can learn about a tall grass prairie, stream life, and other unique areas in the park right in their own classroom. Come and hear Amy talk about this incredible program.

### **11:00 a.m. Concurrent Sessions**

**1. Digital Cameras and LCD Projectors – Office Max, Waterloo, IA**

Are you wanting to purchase a Digital Camera or how about a LCD Projector? Get some questions answered before you make that purchase. We'll have an Office Max salesperson on hand to do just that.

**2. Using the Right Tools to Receive a REAP-CEP Grant – Linda Zaletel, Story CCB**

Times are hard, and budgets are slim. Use these tools to get back some lost ground with your programming.

### **Noon Lunch (Voting of Bylaw Changes)**

### **1:00 p.m. Concurrent Sessions**

**1. Extending Environmental Education to Home Schooled Children  
– Christine Kirpes, Indian Creek Nature Center**

Home schooling is a growing trend in all areas of the state. Christine will share her program ideas with you. Curriculum and evaluations will be discussed. All naturalist can benefit from these ideas.

**2. GPS What Is It? What Can I Do With it?**

**– Darrin Siefken, ISU Extension, Bremer County and Jerry Keys, Story CCB**

Let Darrin and Jerry show you how great these little navigational devices work. We will do some outdoor exercises with this class. A great public program topic, so come and learn.

### **2:00 p.m. Concurrent Sessions**

**1. Mountain Lion Exhibit – Sandy Fulcher, Black Hawk CCB**

Here's a timely tool! Black Hawk County will be hosting a mountain lion exhibit. A curriculum was developed to accompany the display. This curriculum, and the evaluations of it, will be discussed. The exhibit will be traveling around the state. Come and learn more.

**2. Iowa Land Forms – Amy Yoakum, Story CCB and Joe Boyles, Polk CCB**

Here's a great tool to teach kids about Iowa's landforms. Amy and Joe have developed a check-out box. The box has information about glaciers, ice age animals, and early people. Here some great ideas to teach a hard subject.

### **3:00 p.m. Break**

### **3:15 p.m. Using the ICN For Environmental Education in Iowa**

**– Lewis Major, Polk CCB, Amy Garret, Homestead National Monument**

Lewis has been using the ICN to reach hundreds of students with a single program. This technology is something that can benefit naturalists trying to reach students in their own counties, and beyond. This is an awesome idea – ask Lewis and Amy about it.



**4:30 p.m. IAN Business Meeting**

**6:30 p.m. Dinner & Auction at Calkins Nature Center**

**8:30 p.m. A Night of Bowling and Fun in Iowa Falls**

## **Friday, November 5th**

**8:00 a.m. Breakfast**

**9:00 a.m. Best Practices in Fishing and Aquatic Stewardship Education**  
– Barb Gigar, Iowa DNR

This new format will provide great resources for program planners of any environmental education programs. Learn about the materials and how to get free copies.

**10:00 a.m. Concurrent Sessions**

**1. Nature Tales – Theresa Kruid, Woodbury CCB**

This very popular public program in Woodbury County is for preschoolers with an adult. Theresa will share her program ideas along with nature-related books and stories.

**2. Filling Out AEA Syllabus Forms**

– Miriam Patton, Palo Alto CCB; Cindy Blobaum & Charlene Elyea, O'Brian CCB

Learn how to write course descriptions in the correct language that shows we are meeting National and Iowa Teaching Standards as well as Professional Development Requirements.

**11:00 a.m. Concurrent Sessions**

**1. Once Upon a Time in Nature**

– Sarah Droste, Hardin CCB; Kelly Sonnichsen Crawford CCB.

Everyone has a favorite story that they heard as a child. Bring your favorite children's books and we will swap ideas on how to use these stories to create a camp or program. Bring books and ideas to share.

**2. Outdoor Wilderness Leaders**

– Chris Adkins, Dallas CCB; Judy Levings, ISU Youth and 4-H Programs.

Listen to Chris and Judy share their experiences of being leaders. They would like to recruit more naturalists to lead these youth tours to America's wild places. A great opportunity.

**12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m. Lunch/Depart**

### **Directions:**

Coming in on Highway 65/Oak Street, travel through Iowa Falls until the Washington Avenue stoplight, turn west onto Washington Avenue and proceed to the west edge of town. Turn south at the National Guard Armory. Follow the signs to the nature area (approximately 3 miles). Coming from the west on Highway 57, turn south at the National Guard Armory.

### **Lodging:**

AmericInn (866-436-6835), ask for IAN discount  
810 S. Oak Street, Iowa Falls, IA.

A block of rooms has been reserved. Single: \$50.90 + tax, Double: \$56.90 + tax. There is a heated indoor pool, and whirlpool. (located on the south edge of Iowa Falls on S. Oak/Hwy 65.)

You may sleep on the floor at Calkins Nature Center Wednesday and Thursday nights. Please let Wes Wiese or Sarah Droste know. There are showers. Call 641-648-9878.





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Articles submitted for the Spring newsletter must be postmarked no later than January 15, 2005. Articles and newsletter correspondence should be sent to the address shown above.

Many of the illustrations found in *The Web* are printed courtesy of Mark Muller and Scott Patton.



**N**aturalists - planting the seed of environmental stewardship by communicating the meanings and relationships in natural, cultural, and historical resources.

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*Check out the IAN Web Site — [www.ianpage.20m.com](http://www.ianpage.20m.com)*