

# Iowa Association of Naturalists

## 2004 Annual Report

### **Executive Committee**

President: Linda R.F. Zaletel

Vice President: Shane Vondracek / Kelly Sonnichsen

Treasurer: Greg Wolf

Secretary: Heather Freidhof

Workshop Coordinator: Wes Wiese

**Membership:** 146 paid and honorary members

### **Meetings:**

Spring Workshop: Twin Ponds Nature Center, Chickasaw County Conservation Board - March 17-19, 2004

**Preworkshop:** Wildlife Rescue and Rehab, Floyd Co's Fossil and Prairie Center, Fishing the Mississippi

**Featured:** Reenacting the Old West; Falconry; The Traditional Bow; Pioneer Crafts; Preserving Animal Body Parts; The Tale of the Fur Trapper; Fooling Ducks the Old Fashioned Way; IAN Professional Standards – The Past, Present & Future; Iowa's Natural Landscape; Stories from the Stones; Duck Hunting with Grandpa; Dutch Oven Cooking; Signs, Signs, Everywhere are signs and Basket Weaving/Soap Making

**Attendance:** 74

Summer Workshop: Benton County – July

**Featured:** Canoed from Tobin's Cabin to Vinton on Cedar River, toured Frontier Herbs, toured Natural Soy Products, toured Walker's Prairie (10 acres), toured K & K popcorn (hull less) and visited an organic farm. Music and stargazing provided the evening entertainment.

**Attendance:** 8

Fall Meeting: Calkins Nature Center, Hardin County Conservation Board – Nov. 3-5, 2004.

**Preworkshop:** Iowa Pheasant Hunt; First Aid/CPR Certification; Greenbelt Tour

**Featured:** Bylaws Review, Homestead National Monument of America; Using the Right Tools to Receive a REAP – CEP Grant; Iowa Landforms; Extending Environmental Education to Home Schooled Children; GPS What is it? What can I do with it?; Mountain Lion Exhibit; Using the ICN for EE in Iowa; Best Practices in Fishing & Aquatic Stewardship Education; Nature Tales, Filling out AEA Syllabus Forms; Once Upon a Time in Nature and Outdoor Wilderness Leaders.

**Attendance:** 82

**The Executive Committee met five times during the year:** January 12; March 17; August 2; November 3; December 15, 2004.

## **Committees**

Eight standing committees were in existence in 2004. Eighteen administrative tasks were the responsibility of the ExCom during 2004.

### Promotions

Fundraising  
Junior Naturalist  
Joe Halbur Memorial Scholarship  
Web Page

### Professional Development

Professional Development  
Scholarships  
Mentoring  
ICEC/IAN Awards

Standards for Internships – no longer together. Task completed, proofread and voted on.

### Administrative Tasks

The following are the administrative tasks that were the responsibility of the ExCom during 2004.

Archive/Records	Bylaw changes/Elections
DNR Liaison – Jacklyn Neely	Guide to Interpretive Services
NAI Liaison – Amy Yoakum	Policy and Procedure Manual
ICEC Liaison	Grant Program
Newsletter	Awards and Recognition
IEC Liaison – Gail Barels	IACCBE Representative – Angela Bries
REAP/CEP	ISU Extension Liaison – Darrin Siefken
Master Conservationist	Strategic Plan
IAN Listserve	501c6 status means IAN has to pay sales tax.

## **2004 Highlights**

### **Professional Development**

The deadline for submission was December 31. Recognition took place at the March 2004 meeting. The following were certified: Julie Brazell, Ann Burns, Sondra Cabell, Katie Cantu, Dawn Chapman, Katie Dalton, Kathy Dice, Rochelle Ebel, Charlene Elyea, Anita Fisher, Sunday Ford, Bradley Freidhof, Heather Freidhof, Laura Hamilton, Jerry Keys, Maria Koschmeder, Theresa Kruid, Jody Moats, Heather Niec, Michele Olson, Miriam Patton, Kim Perlstein-Rowley, Diane Pixler, Tina Popson, Kelly Sonnichsen, Shane Vondracek, Todd VonEhwegen, Greg Wolf, Amy Yoakum and Linda Zaletel.

Heidi Anderson, Dana Dettmer, Pam Holz and Mark Roberts were 5-year recipients.

### **Scholarships**

Scholarships were given to Kelly Sonnichsen from Crawford CCB (\$75 to attend the Region V Workshop) and Jerry Keys and Linda Zaletel received a \$100 scholarship for NIW in Michigan.

### **Standards for Internships**

This committee has completed its task and is no longer together. The completed standards are on the web site.

## **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:

Robert Rye, Iowa Department of Transportation

Chris Holt Youth Environmental Education Award:

Clinton County Conservation Board & Clinton County Area Solid Waste Agency

Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award:

Pamela Holz, Washington County Conservation Board Naturalist

Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (pop. >35,000):

Linn County Conservation Board

Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (pop. <35,000):

Buchanan County Conservation Board

Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award:

Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

"Ding" Darling Environmental Education Award:

Polk County Conservation Board

## **IAN Mentoring Program**

The mole program continued at the spring & fall 2004 IAN meetings. Several members (Jerry Keys, Greg Wolf, Shane Vondracek, Katie Dalton, Julie Brazell, Andria Cossolotto and Christina Groen) were appointed to mingle with new members and match them up with veteran naturalists. Several regional groups of IAN members continue to meet at mini-workshops. Veteran members can share ideas and mentor new members.

<u>Mentee</u>	<u>Mentor</u>
Charlie Bray (Wright)	Karen Roosa-Hansen (Webster)
Ben Schlader (Pocahontas)	Aaron Herschberg (Carroll)
Ryan Schlater (Sac)	Kelly Sonnichsen (Crawford)
Kristi Karwal (Des Moines)	Karen Jolas-Szalkowski (Lee)
Lisa Anderson (Clay)	Charlene Elyea (O'Brien)
Michelle Broderson (Lee)	Pam Holz (Washington)
Nicole Moestchen (Jackson)	Michelle Olson (Jones)
Linda Roy (Scott)	Greg Wolf (Clinton)
Steve Hummel (Ida)	Theresa Kruid (Woodbury)
Connie Chase	Sandy Fulcher (Black Hawk)

## **Master Conservationist**

IAN is again sponsoring the Master Conservationist Program. This program is in the second year of funding. The cost paid out covers the IAN booklets provided to each participant. Mahaska County Extension, Johnson County Extension, Polk County Extension, Wapello County Extension, Black Hawk County Extension, Mills County Extension and Marshall County Extension were award up to \$250 each. The total monies spent were \$1,518. \$982 remains in this fund for approximately 4 more workshops.

### **Junior Naturalist Program**

Bluegill patches were available at the spring 2004 IAN meeting. More fox patches will be made for 2005.

### **Joe Halbur Scholarship**

A total of \$292.96 was raised in 2004. The scholarship amount was increased from \$250 to \$500. Two people applied. Joann McNally was selected as the recipient. She is a student at South Dakota State University. The Joe Halbur Scholarship committee produced a flyer to be distributed to all high schools and colleges. Darrin Siefken stepped down and was replaced by Maria Koschmeder as chair. The committee submitted a proposal that \$150 be allotted for a recipient to fulfill the requirement to attend an IAN workshop in addition to the \$500 scholarship. ExCom approved this proposal.

### **Newsletter**

Three newsletters were produced and distributed via email. The last printed newsletter was the January 2004 newsletter. A few newsletters are delivered by mail.

### **Grants**

No grants were submitted.

### **REAP/CEP Grant Program**

IAN did not apply for any REAP/CEP grants this year. REAP/CEP is emphasizing learning outcomes in the evaluation process.

### **IAN Web Page**

The IAN web page is located at [www.ianpage.20m.com](http://www.ianpage.20m.com). The web site includes many sections such as the IAN ExCom & Standing Committees, IAN's newsletter, upcoming workshops, professional standards, sponsored programs, publications, membership, job announcements, links and a guestbook. The web site includes the *Guide to Interpretive Services*, grant applications, intern standards available to download and a member's chat room. Updates were made to job opportunities, ExCom, standing committees, the annual report and the upcoming workshop section throughout 2004. Pam Holz helped review the web site and made changes to the "What members get" page as well as eliminating wording about a welcome/joining gift. It was also decided that for personal safety reasons, only first names would be used online to identify people in pictures.

### **Fund Raising**

A total of \$1,763 was raised at the 2004 fall auction.