

The Web

Newsletter of the Iowa Association of Naturalists



IAN Fall Workshop (pages 9-11)!

Strategic Plans

Linda R.F Zaletel, IAN President

The two-year planning committee met the last week of July, and conversations turned to questions and issues that IAN will face in the future. We also discussed the difference between a strategic plan and goals.

Just what is a strategic plan?

A strategic plan:

- Serves as a framework for decisions or for securing support/approval.
- Provides a basis for more detailed planning.
- Explains the business to others in order to inform, motivate and involve.
- Assists in benchmarking and performance monitoring.
- Stimulates change and becomes building blocks for future plans.

A strategic plan should be visionary, conceptual, and directional. An operational plan is shorter, tactical, focused, able to be implemented and measurable. A strategic plan must be realistic and attainable to think strategically and act operationally.

Did you know that IAN had a goals list? Several of these goals were implemented successfully.

- We plan and sponsor workshops designed to meet the needs of the members.
- IAN continues to publish a professional quality newsletter.
- IAN developed standards for the profession, nature center planning, working with live animals, and a self evaluation criteria.
- IAN also provides mentoring for beginning naturalists (see page 2).
- A great scholarship program (see page 2).
- And a grant program.

Development Strategy) legislation, and actually had an IAN member elected to the state legislature who introduced SEEDS into several bills.

Does IAN need a strategic plan? What do we want IAN to look like 20 years from now? What direction are natural resources and environmental education being taken? What is our mission? Is it to promote the professional growth and development of its members, or to promote the interpretive profession and environmental education in the state? What should we be doing for the future naturalists who are still attending elementary schools in Iowa?

The Planning Committee feels that IAN needs to look at a strategic plan and set the tone for the future. It takes work and visioning. We have many new naturalists with good ideas. Be on the lookout for a membership survey in the future.

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Other goals were not implemented, but efforts to implement them were great learning experiences. We developed a draft SEEDS (Statewide Environmental Education





IAN Mentoring Committee

Heather Freidhof, Bremer County Naturalist

Greetings! I am writing because I am in need of some informants! Okay, nothing to do with spies, but I am in charge of the IAN Mentoring Committee and need some help from around the state. The Mentoring Committee tries to greet and welcome members to IAN, typically those in the county conservation board system, and for some entering their first-time job. While this is a very noble responsibility, it isn't always easy to keep up with 99 counties. Since IAN only meets three times a year, meetings aren't always the best venue to say "hi" and "welcome". So, I am hoping to expand the number of members on the Mentoring Committee. It currently stands at four, including myself!

What I am interested in doing is having a welcoming member in each of the four parts of Iowa. I am in Northeast Iowa, where no one seems to leave their jobs ☐ . I am not as familiar with personnel in counties in other regions of Iowa. Would anyone from those parts of the state step up to either 1) alert me that there is a new IAN member needing a mentor, or 2) welcome them, arrange a mentor, and get them to check out all the information we have online for new naturalists.

I know we are all busy, but when I was a new naturalist, I know how important neighboring counties were for me. So, if you want to help out on the

Committee, love meeting new people, and aren't afraid of some work, please contact me at 319-882-4742 or email bccbbccb@butler-bremer.com. If you are a new member and need a mentor, please contact me as well.



Grants Available to Attend Region V Workshop

Amy Yoakum, Story County Naturalist



IAN was successful in obtaining a REAP-CEP grant which will help Iowa educators attend the NIW Region V workshop in Dubuque next April. The grant will allow 100 educators to each receive a \$200 scholarship to offset the cost of the workshop.

The scholarship application will be available in September, with a return deadline of November 30 . Scholarship recipients will be notified of their award in mid-December. Half of the scholarship will be awarded before the workshop, and the other half awarded upon completion of required post-workshop evaluations.

The workshop theme is *Rollin' on the River*, and has many great educational opportunities already in the works. For more workshop details visit www.nairegions.org/5, or contact workshop chair Darrin Siefken. For scholarship information, contact: Amy Yoakum, Story CCB at ayoakum@storycounty.com; or Beth Waage, Warren CCB.

Fall Auction 2005

Karen Johlas-Szalkowski, Lee County Naturalist

This year's Fall Workshop is just around the corner (see pages 9-11), so we need your help with auction items. This year's theme is *Program Totes*. Put together your "kid approved" favorite lesson, include all the materials, procedures, props, and tips, then package it in a Rubbermaid container or cloth tote etc. and bring it to the auction. This is an excellent way for each county to show off and share their favorite program. Like always, all quality auction items are accepted and greatly appreciated.



IAN/ICEC Awards Program

Know of 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 2005 Conservation and Environmental Education Excellence Awards Program.

The Awards Programs 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.

Award categories are:

- *Aldo Leopold EE Award*: Lifetime achievement in EE excellence and leadership
- *Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award*: Outstanding efforts by an environmental educator
- *Chris Holt Youth EE Award*: Outstanding EE program for youth or by youth
- *"Ding" Darling EE Award*: for outstanding EE program or event which informs and educates the general public
- *Sylvan Runkel EE School Award*: for outstanding whole-school EE program
- *Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program* (pop. < 35,000 or pop. > 35,000): Excellence in EE programming by a county conservation board
- *Frederic Leopold EE Award*: Outstanding EE efforts by business, industry, or labor
- *Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award*: Outstanding efforts to educate about preservation, land management, or natural resource conservation

Check on the web (www.ianpage.20m.com) for a nomination form and examples of past winning nominations. Submission deadline is December 1, 2005. Award forms should not exceed three pages. Self-nomination is permissible. To receive a nomination form, contact:

Heidi Anderson
IAN/ICEC Awards Committee
Polk County Conservation
11407 NW Jester Park Dr.
Granger, IA 50109
515.323.5360
E-mail: handers@co.polk.ia.us

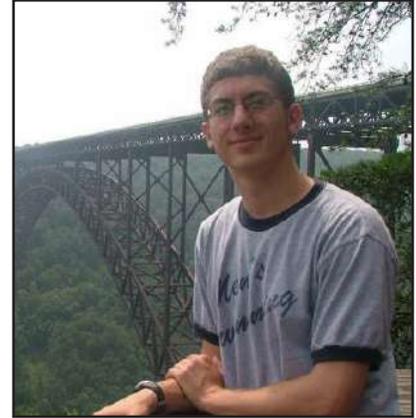
Grapevine News

Cari Burnstedt
is the new naturalist
at Henry CCB. We
welcome her aboard!

2005 IAN Scholarship Winner Announced

Maria Koschmeder, Iowa CCB Naturalist

Ben Rees, Marshalltown, IA, will receive this year's Iowa Association of Naturalists Joe Halbur Scholarship. Ben is a graduate of Marshalltown High School and will be attending Cornell College in the fall. He will major in biology



and is interested in the research opportunities offered at Cornell. Ben has been active in the regional, state and national Envirothon program, the Science Olympiad, cross country and swimming. He is active at church and volunteers at the local library, Uncle Ike's day camps, and other summer programs.

Ben just returned from the National Youth Science Camp. Each summer, 2 high school seniors from each state are selected for this 4 week camp. They participate in outdoor skills activities such as caving and rock climbing, participate in lectures from leading scientists on a variety of science topics and participate in related "directed studies" where students work with scientists to explore one topic of interest. Ben stated that the best part of the camp was meeting all the campers, a diverse body of talented individuals, and that it was a "cool and unique" experience.

The Joe Halbur Scholarship is awarded to one high school senior or college student who plan to further their education in programs of environmental education, cultural interpretation, historical interpretation or outdoor recreation. They must be a resident of Iowa, and plan to attend an in-state college. For more information about the IAN Joe Halbur

Detra Dettmann, long-time naturalist and co-director for Louisa CCB, has taken a new job with the RC&D out of Fairfield. We wish her the best in this new pursuit!



IAN Executive Committee Candidates

Linda R.F. Zaletel, IAN President



Three positions on the IAN Executive Committee (ExCom) need to be filled for the two-year term beginning in November of 2005. The election will be held at the Fall Meeting, November 17. Please read through the candidate information listed below, and be ready to vote in November.

As per the Bylaws revised last spring: At the spring meeting three volunteers were asked to serve as a nominating committee and submit a slate of candidates to the ExCom. The ballot allows for write-in candidates. Absentee ballots can be requested from Vice President Kelly Sonnicksen, and will be provided to any member, upon request, who will not be attending the annual fall meeting. Absentee ballots are due two weeks (November 2) before the meeting. Ballots must be sent to the Vice President Kelly Sonnicksen at Crawford County Conservation Board, 2237 Yellow Smoke Road, Denison, IA 51422. The Vice President and a member of the nominating committee will count the ballots and announce the election during the annual fall business meeting.

Christina Groen, Shelby and Audubon CCB Naturalist

I have been the Naturalist for Shelby and Audubon Counties for about four years now. It can be challenging working for two counties, so it is good that I am a fairly organized person (Although, you may not know that by looking at my office right now). I joined IAN shortly after I started working for Shelby and Audubon CCBs and am very glad I did. It has been a tremendous help to me in many ways. Over the past few years, I have been active in IAN in a few ways. I was IAN's representative to IACCBE for one year. I am currently on the Awards Committee, and have been on that committee for the past two years. I helped plan the 2005 Summer Workshop with Kelly and Connie. I have been thinking about running for ExCom for the past few months. When the nominating committee asked me to run, I decided to give it a shot because I want to give something back to an organization that has been a great asset to me.

Nicole Moestchen, Jackson CCB Assistant Naturalist, Hurstville Interpretive Center

Hello everyone! My name is Nicole Moestchen some of you may know me as Nicole McLees I got married in September of 2003 and some people are still trying to figure out my new name. I became an IAN member in the fall of 1999 at this time I didn't realize how great a resource a resource IAN is and came back to IAN in the fall of 2003. I graduated from Upper Iowa University in May of 2003 with a degree in Conservation Management. Since starting college at Hawkeye Community College, and interning at many different locations (Hardin County, SW Iowa State Parks, and Clayton County), I developed a love of teaching young children and adults about nature. I would love to be more involved with IAN, and being a part of ExCom would help me do that!

Heather Freidhof, Bremer CCB Naturalist

Hi. My name is Heather Freidhof. I work in Bremer County. I've been there for 5 years. Before that, I worked in Boone County for 2 years. IAN has been a huge asset to me in my career. I especially enjoy networking with other naturalists to see what programs they have in their counties. I look forward to every workshop, and plan to attend even before I know what the sessions will be about. I currently serve on the ExCom and Mentoring Committee. For ExCom, I am the secretary. For the Mentoring Committee, I arrange for new naturalists to be paired up with a mentor naturalist who can relay advice or lend equipment. I enjoy meeting the newest naturalists and helping them begin their career. I would love to continue serving IAN. I really enjoy working with people from all over the state, because it broadens my scope and gives me new ideas. I feel that ExCom would continue to be a great opportunity for my professional growth.

Karen Phelps, Benton CCB Naturalist

As Benton CCB's first naturalist, hard work, determination, and the support and encouragement of the community and fellow naturalists helped me create a successful E.E. program. I have been very active in my community throughout my life, serving in various leadership roles, including Director of the Amana First Responders for the past 15 years. When not working or volunteering, my lifestyle still reflects my job in that I am passionate about the outdoors, enjoying various aspects of outdoor recreation, conservation and preservation.

Beth Waage, Warren CCB Naturalist

Most of you probably know me from the Des Moines Y-Camp, which we all know is in Boone, and not Des Moines. I am now working full time for Warren County, and would like to be more involved with the naturalist community. I feel that serving on the IAN Executive Committee would be a great way to get more involved and meet more people in this great profession. I always have a great time at the conferences, and I would like to spread the word of IAN to more people in our state.



REAP Conservation Education Program Spring 2005 Grants

Linda R.F. Zaletel, IAN President

The spring REAP-CEP committee met June 8, 2005. REAP-CEP had \$351,096, plus \$15,388 from last round, for a total of \$366,484 available for awards. Nineteen grants were submitted, for a total of \$462,547. Nine grants were funded, for a total of \$236,675, as follows:

Facilitating Integration of Conservation Concepts in Formal Education Settings—\$40,100

Iowa DNR Aquatic Education Program will:

- Correlate Projects WILD and WILD Aquatic to national learning standards for social studies.
- Provide suggested activities by grade level/subject area that addresses pertinent learning standards and natural resource topics/issues.
- Deliver Projects WILD, WILD Aquatic and Learning Tree through on-line courses.
- Provide incentives for educators.

A Green Infrastructure Strategy Model: Preserving the Lifelines to Our Future—\$35,000

Growing Green Communities will:

- Convene a series of educational design workshops in SE Polk County
- Host a major, statewide symposium at Drake University on how to identify and legally protect green infrastructure
- Create a Landowner Toolkit for the landowner/farm community to aid landowners in financial and estate planning related to their land and options for conservation protection.

Lions in Iowa! —\$32,395

Friends of Hartman Reserve

Hartman Reserve Nature Center will oversee the exhibit, *Mountain Lions! In Iowa*, a nine-site itinerary, and provide each nature center with training on how to use the exhibit and curriculum.

NAI Region V Workshop—\$21,600

Iowa Association of Naturalists

The IAN, Iowa Conservation Education Council and National Association for Interpretation (NAI) would like to see many Iowa educators take part in the NAI Region V workshop to be held in Dubuque in April 2006. Scholarships (\$200) will help those who would otherwise be unable to attend.

PARTY—\$30,080

Polk County Conservation

PARTY (Playful, Active, Recreation Targeted for YOU) is a pilot program to get teens active in the outdoors through after-school programs. PARTY will develop a curriculum for five different outdoor skills, integrated with natural resource concepts. They will be piloted to teens in the Des Moines metro area.



Prescribed Fire Education for Loess

Hills Landowners—\$33,000

Loess Hills Alliance

The Loess Hills Alliance will provide educational outreach to Loess Hills landowners to increase the understanding and application of prescribed fire in an effort to restore native plant communities and revive economic opportunities associated with livestock grazing.

Pre-Service, Beginning and Advanced Waste Reduction Education Program—\$21,945

Center for Energy and Environmental Education, University of Northern Iowa

The Center for Energy and Environmental Education (CEEE) will:

- Conduct the Waste Reduction: Addressing the Overlooked “R” course in three under served areas of Iowa (Creston, Clear Lake and Maquoketa).
- Offer, for the first-time ever, an Advanced WR, addressing the Overlooked “R” workshop for teachers.
- Continue pre-service waste reduction mini-workshops.

Reading Iowa’s Landscape—Connecting Literature with EE—\$19,255

Iowa Conservation Education Council (ICEC)

The ICEC will conduct the Winter Solstice workshop in Indianola to give educators activities and resources to take back to the classroom and strengthen environmental education.

Restore, Reclaim, Renew—Midwest Wildlife Rehabilitators Conference—\$3,100

Iowa Wildlife Rehabilitators Association (REAP CEP Project #06-05)

The Iowa Wildlife Rehabilitators Association will host the Midwest Wildlife Rehabilitators Conference and grant funds will be used for guest speaker fees, thereby reducing registrants’ costs.



Revised REAP-CEP guidelines

Susan Salterberg
319-337-4816 or e-mail Salterberg@uni.edu



Revised guidelines for submitting Resource Enhancement and Protection Conservation Education Program (REAP-CEP) grant applications will be available by mid- to late-August. Interested applicants may go to www.iowaece.org to download a copy.

Anyone applying for grant funds needs to use the new guidelines, forms and format, according to the REAP-CEP Board. Grant applicants are also encouraged to review the new evaluation criteria, found on page 11 of the Applications and Procedures Manual.

Proposals are accepted and reviewed twice each year. The next deadline is November 1.

Annually, the CEP Board allocates approximately \$350,000 in grants for conservation education. The five members of the Board are appointed from the state departments of education and natural resources, the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards, the Iowa Association of Naturalists and the Iowa Conservation Education Council.

EE – Measuring Success

Susan Salterberg, UNI

A workshop, focused on how to measure the success of environmental education programs, will be held Wednesday, October 19, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Polk County Convention Center in Des Moines. The workshop, titled Practical Program Evaluation for Environmental Educators, is targeted to Iowa's environmental professionals, and is funded by four state agencies and organizations including REAP-CEP.

The workshop will introduce participants to a framework for evaluating for project outcomes.

Often, evaluation surveys that focus on attendance or satisfaction are fine—but they don't go far enough in today's world of accountability. Program planners need tools for measuring outcomes and results. Hands-on exercises will introduce tools such as "progress markers" and "chain of outcomes." Participants will design a draft evaluation survey form. Participants should bring evaluation forms for existing programs, if they are available. The workshop leader is Dr. Nancy Grudens-Schuck, associate professor, Department of Agricultural Education and Studies, Iowa State University, ngs@iastate.edu.

The workshop will be held on the final day of the Iowa Recycling Association Conference. To register, go to www.iowarecycles.org or contact Dewayne Johnson, executive director of the IRA, at djohnson@iowarecycles.org or 515-265-1596. For workshop details or other workshop questions, contact Susan Salterberg at Salterberg@uni.edu.

This workshop is funded in part by REAP CEP, the Iowa DNR Solid Waste Alternatives Program, the Iowa Recycling Association Education Committee, and UNI Center for Energy and Environmental Education.

“Scat Rap”

by Rodd Pemble, Mary Keebler and Andy Bennett
(for crappy recipe ideas, see page 7)

Chorus:

*Starts with an “S” and it ends with a “T”
It comes out of you and it comes out of me.
I know what you're thinking. It could be called that,
But be scientific and call it scat*

Verse:

*If you want to find out what animals eat,
Take a good long look at what they excrete.
Stuck in the scat are all kind of clues,
Parts of the food that their bodies can't use.*

Chorus

*Down by the creek on a hollow log,
Scat full of berries and bones of frogs.
Fresh last night, out with the moon,
Hunting crawdads it was a big raccoon.*

Chorus

*You park your car by woods or field,
Gonna find scat on your windshield.
Full of seeds, purple and white,
You just got bombed by a bird in flight.*

Chorus

*Take a good long look at the scat on the ground.
If you wanna know what's in the woods or around
It tells us what they eat and tells us who they are.
And that's what we know about
scat so far.*



The Scoop on Poop!



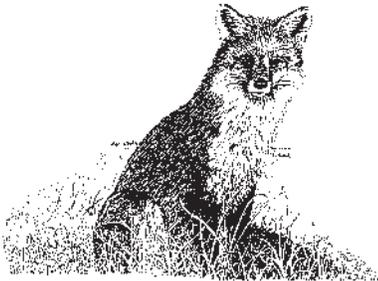
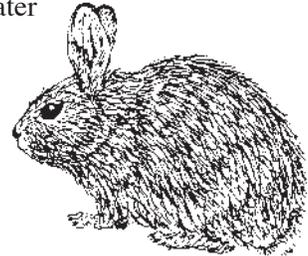
Submitted by Kelly Sonnichsen
Adapted from NAI Region 4 booklet,
"Scat, Tracks and other Animal Signs"

We were sitting at Summer IAN Workshop in Harrison County, discussing some of the different things we do for tracks and scat programs. It is always fun to talk about poop!

I, myself, always enjoy freaking out some of the more squeamish people at our tracking programs. One good way to do this, is by making some pseudoscat, and strategically placing it along the trail. When you reach the pseudoscat, stop to investigate it. Explain the characteristics of the scat so they can start to think about which animal it belongs to, and place the specimen in a bag for further observation. Don't reveal that it is pseudoscat (tell them later), and then sample (smell and taste) the specimen for the final verdict. Remember there is definitely an art to making pseudoscat! Here are a few recipes to help you along:

Rabbit and Deer

- Ingredients: Tootsie rolls, Italian seasoning, cinnamon, dried plant material and water
- Method:
 1. Warm Tootsie Roll in microwave for 10-15 seconds.
 2. Sprinkle roll with Italian seasoning and kneed it evenly into chocolate.
 3. Pinch off at least 10-15 small pieces: for rabbits, about the size of an M&M; for deer, about the size of Raisinettes.
 4. Roll around in the palm of the hand until pieces are circular shape for rabbits, or tubular shaped with a pointed end for deer.
 5. Touch the chocolate candy with a small drop of water.
 6. Roll in more Italian seasoning mix until the pellet is completely covered.



Fox

- Ingredients: Dates, sliced almonds, feathers, hair
- Method:
 1. Force dates end to end until the specimen is 3-4 inches long.
 2. Squeeze the terminally located date into a fine point, works best if a bit of feather or hair is worked into the twisted end.
 3. Strategically place an almond to duplicate bone fragment.
 4. If you are a fussy eater, leave one end of the sample hairless.

Ideas for preserving scat (the real stuff)...

1. Either dry scat in sun or oven. Outside in the sun in the fall seems to work best when the humidity isn't too high. I have tried the microwave too, and it works well.
2. When you dry in sun, I spray lightly with bug spray and don't leave out over night.
3. Pour resin or shellac in bucket.
4. Submerge scat in resin or shellac for 10 minutes or until you don't see any more air bubbles.
5. Use scoop strainer to get scat out and place on a rack over a bucket and let dry, rotate the scat so the resin or shellac drips off as much as possible.
6. Repeat the dipping for several days.
7. Allow scat to dry for several days after last application.

If you are looking for other tracks
or scat ideas, send requests to: →

Scat, Tracks and Other Animal Signs
NAI Region 4
32132 State Road 2
New Carlisle, IN 46552
\$3.50 plus .75 cents for postage
Make checks payable to NAI region 4





Iowater Workshops

www.iowater.net/Workshops/workshops2005.htm

IOWATER is a statewide volunteer water quality monitoring program. Upon completion of the workshop, you will be a certified Level 1 IOWATER Citizen Monitor. The workshop registration fee is \$25, which covers all program fees, meals, and testing equipment. Upcoming workshops are listed below.

Sept. 9-10, Marshall CCB
Diane Pixler, 641-752-5490

Sept. 16-17, Sioux CCB
712-552-3057

Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, Quad Cities
Jody Patterson, 563-323-5196

Oct. 7-8, Cedar Rapids
Stacie Johnson, 319-364-2897

NatureMapping

Contact: Gail Barels
319-892-6485

NatureMapping is Iowa's volunteer-driven wildlife monitoring program. It is a hands-on environmental education program that is growing and evolving. NatureMapping involves the public in "finding the pieces of the puzzle". The next training will be held **November 5**, at the Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center in Toddville, Iowa.



Upcoming Workshops

Projects WILD, WILD Aquatic, and Learning Tree online

Contact: Shannon Hafner
641-747-2051
shafner2@netins.net

Teachers, naturalists, youth leaders, and other educators now have a unique opportunity to participate in Projects WILD, WILD Aquatic, and Learning Tree workshops - online. This eight-week class is offered through Heartland AEA 11. There is a required introductory session **September 17** at Heartland AEA 11 Learning Center. The rest of the course will be completed online.

Participants will receive all three activity manuals, as well as Iowa supplements. All materials are correlated to National Education Standards.

To register, go to the Heartland AEA 11 website - www.aea11.k12.ia.us. Click on "Professional Dev Catalog" under "Catalogs & Resources." A box will pop up. Click on the first item - "Activities Catalog." Scroll down to the middle of the page to "OR... Enter Activity an Activity Number." Type IS004499990601 in the box. Click the "Go" button. Registration deadline is **September 9**. Cost is \$45, and includes materials and 1 license renewal credit. Graduate credit from Drake University will be available at the introductory session for an additional \$90.



Prairie Field Day

Contact: Sondra Cabell
319/636-2617
fontanapark@iowatelecom.net

The Iowa Conservation Education Council is embarking on a new membership service for members and their friends. A Prairie Field Day will be hosted by Buchanan CCB on **September 24**. Several Iowa teachers and naturalists will share their hands-on teaching methods, using native and reconstructed prairie. In addition, all participants will receive a compilation of prairie curriculum materials. The cost is \$10 for ICEC member; \$20 for non-member. Materials Provided: Prairie curriculum notebook for K-5 or 6-12.

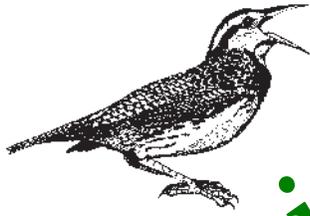


NAI Region 5 Workshop

Contact: Carol Schutte
641-422-4319
schutcar@niacc.edu

The National Association of Interpretation Region V Workshop returns to Iowa **April 5-9, 2006**, with the theme, Rollin' on the River. Scholarships are available (see page 2). The workshop, which will be held in Dubuque, will feature:

- Behind the scenes tour of the National Mississippi River Museum
- Concurrent sessions at motel
- Evening social at the National Mississippi River Museum
- Lumberjack show
- Inexpensive workshop and lodging
- Variety of natural, cultural, and historical field trips
- 50's Rock and Roll theme dinner with Artie & The Pink Cadillacs
- Special events - Victorian mansion
- Paddle boat dinner cruise
- Plenty of outdoor activities
- Live entertainment



Prairie-Palooza!

IAN Fall Workshop November 16-18, 2005
Pottawattamie County Conservation Board
Hitchcock Nature Center
2048 Highway 6 NW, Oxford, IA 52322
Registration Deadline: November 10th

Wednesday, November 16th, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Pre-Workshops:

All pre-workshops will meet at the Hitchcock Nature Center for carpooling

- Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo:** Visit the 3rd best zoo in the country with Andria Cossolotto. We will be sure to see the new Orangutan Forest, Desert Dome and Kingdoms of the Night displays plus everything else. Cost: \$10.25. For more information: <http://www.omahazoo.com/>
- DeSoto Bend NWR:** Join Tina Popson to view over 500,000 snow geese on their fall migration. DeSoto also houses contents from the Bertrand Steamship Wreck and has a really neat nature center. For more information: www.fws.gov/refuges/profiles/index.cfm?id=33510
- Fontenelle Forest:** Kelly Sonnichsen and Sara Krug will give a behind the scenes tour of this private nature center on the Missouri River. There will be time to hit the trails and explore afterwards. For more information: www.fontenelleforest.org/
- Loess Hills Hike:** Chad Graeve will lead a hike through the Loess Hills to learn about their history and ecology as well as the native plants that call it home.

On a Loess Hills trail.



4:00 – 6:30 p.m. Dinner – on your own in Old Market area in Omaha. Meet in the hotel lobby at 5:30 if you would like to carpool and eat as a group. For restaurants check out: <http://www.omahaoldmarket.com>

Thursday, November 17th

8:45 a.m. **Registration / Breakfast**

Note: there is not continental breakfast at the hotel!

9:30 a.m. **Welcome, Introductions and Announcements**

9:45 a.m. **General Session I – Hitchcock Hawk Watch:** Clem Klaphake

10:45 a.m. **Break**

11:00 a.m. **Concurrent Session I**

1. **Raptor Recovery Nebraska** – Denise Lewis:

This is a great chance to learn about their program and view live birds.

2. **Making the Grade: School Program Menus** – Tina Popson:

“We did this last year!” is a complaint we don’t want to hear. Learn to customize your programs (Pre K-6th) to meet curricula demands and spark student interest without repetition.

Remember to bring your own table service and snacks!



Prairie-Palooza! continued



12:00 p.m. **Catered lunch at the Lodge**

1:00 p.m. **Concurrent Session II**

1. **Foundations** – Todd VonEhwegen, Christina Groen, Barb McKinstry, etc.:
Learn about establishing and using foundations from a panel of experts.

2. **The Science and Stories of Sasquatch** – Mike Havlik:

What is more crazy, the idea of a large, bipedal, half-man half-ape living in America's forests or a group of people creating an elaborate hoax? We'll look at how scientists are studying an animal that may not exist and the surprising natural history that is emerging. Do you believe? (This session may be flip-flopped with Hawk Walk on Friday - depending on weather.)

2:00 p.m. **Concurrent Session III**

1. **Prairie Plant Hike in the Loess Hills** – Chad Graeve:

Learn about some of the unique plants growing in the Loess Hills.

2. **Predators & Prey** – Sara Krug:

This fun elementary grade program includes a mock trial where the forest is suing the deer.

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

3:30 p.m. **General Session II – Lead poisoning in Iowa Bald Eagles** - Kay Neuman & Kristene Lake:

Learn about the most current research on the topic, and what you can teach to help spread the word.

4:40 p.m. **IAN Business Meeting**

5:30 p.m. **Dinner**

Following Dinner: **Fall Auction** at the Lodge – don't forget to bring program totes to auction off!

Friday, November 18th

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

8:30 a.m. **General Session III – Loess Hills Prairie Seed Collection:** Chad Graeve

9:30 a.m. **Break**

9:45 a.m. **Concurrent Session IV**

*Prairie
Rattlesnake*

1. **Habitat Hike** – Tina Popson

2. **Prairie Rattlesnakes** – Dr. Dan Fogell

10:45 a.m. **Concurrent Session V**

1. **Naturalist Swap Hike:**

Come prepared with ideas to share for making hikes more exciting & educational. Each person will get a chance to be the leader!

2. **Hawk Walk** – Mike Havlik:

Bring your binoculars and "Three to ID" hawk sheet. This is a chance to learn your hawks in the field. We will be looking for late buteo and eagle migrants. (may be flip-flopped with Sasquatch depending on weather.)



Noon **Lunch/Depart**



Fall IAN 2005 Registration Form – Pottawattamie County

Please take a moment to fill out the following form and return it by Nov. 10th with the appropriate fee.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ Email: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____ Affiliation: _____

Pre-workshop Sessions - Wednesday, November 16th (Please check your choice)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> - Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo - \$10.25 | <input type="checkbox"/> - Fontenelle Forest - Free |
| <input type="checkbox"/> - DeSoto Bend, NWR - \$3.00 / vehicle | <input type="checkbox"/> - Loess Hills Hike - Free |

check each meal, and meal option, you wish to eat.

- **Thursday Breakfast:** Fruit, yogurt, bagels & cream cheese, juice & milk \$ 5.00

- **Thursday Lunch: make your own sandwiches** \$ 7.25
 (meat, cheese, PBJ, or hummus; chips/salsa – locally made; veggie tray; cottage cheese; dessert)

- **Thursday Dinner: Catered by Linda Harrill** (check one)
 (w/ oven baked potatoes, green bean almondine, foccica bread, layered lettuce salad, and assorted pies) \$10.50

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> - Marinated Pork | <input type="checkbox"/> - Dijon Chicken Breast | <input type="checkbox"/> - Black Bean Tortilla Casserole (Veggie option) |
|---|---|--|

- **Friday Breakfast: Catered by Linda Harrill** (check one) \$5.00
 (egg bake casserole and homemade cinnamon rolls)

- **Friday Lunch: Chinese Food** (check one)
 (w/ crab rangoon, egg rolls, fried rice, steamed rice & fortune cookies)..... \$8.00

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> - Sweet & Sour Pork | <input type="checkbox"/> - Cashew Chicken | <input type="checkbox"/> - Tofu veggie stir-fry |
|--|---|---|



Meal Total..... \$ _____

Pre-Workshop Fees..... \$ _____

(Henry Doorly Zoo - \$10.25 DeSoto Bend, NWR - \$3.00/vehicle)

Workshop Fee (required).....\$10.00

IAN Membership Fees..... \$ _____

New or Renewing Member \$20.00

Non Member \$20.00

Student Member \$10.00

Total Enclosed:..... \$ _____

Send registration to: IAN % Greg Wolf, P.O. Box 68, Grand Mound, IA 52751-0068
 Not sure if you owe for membership? E-mail Greg Wolf: gwolf@clintoncountyia.com

Directions to Hitchcock Nature Center, 27792 Ski Hill Loop, Honey Creek, IA 51542

- From I-80 East: Take I-680 to I-29. Go North on I-29 towards Sioux City and get off at the exit #72 (Loveland Exit). Turn left (East) at the Conoco station and head towards the hills (under the tunnel). Cross the RR tracks to the Old Lincoln Highway. Turn right (South) onto the Old Lincoln Highway – follow it for 6 miles. Turn right onto Page Lane (there is a Hitchcock sign) – follow about ¼ mile. Turn right (North) onto Ski Hill Loop – follow the signs to the Lodge.
- From I-80 West and I-29 South: Take Exit #61a (Crescent Exit) – Follow to the Old Lincoln Highway. Turn left (North) onto Old Lincoln Highway – follow for about 5 miles. Turn left onto Page Lane – follow for about ¼ mile to Ski Hill Loop. Turn right onto Ski Hill Loop - follow signs to the Lodge

Lodging at Harrah’s Council Bluffs Casino & Hotel (712-329-6000), 1 Harrah’s Boulevard, Council Bluffs, IA 51501

Cost: \$69.00 /room – tell them you are with IAN – there is a block of rooms reserved

For door to door driving directions, check out their website at: http://www.harrahs.com/our_casinos/cou/#

Alternte lodging: Two cabins, sleep 5 each, at Hitchcock - up for grabs if anyone is interested. You are also welcome to pitch a tent or sleep on the floor of the nature center. Call Tina Popson to reserve (712-545-3283).





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Articles submitted for the
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postmarked no later than January
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correspondence should be sent to
the address shown above.

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Naturalists - 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