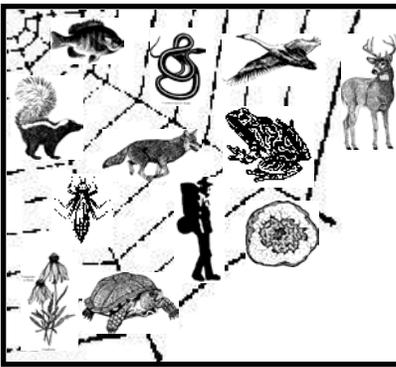


The Web

Newsletter of the Iowa Association of Naturalists

Fall IAN Workshop (pages 6-8)!



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 2006 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*: for lifetime achievement in EE excellence and leadership
- *Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award*: for outstanding efforts by an environmental educator
- *Chris Holt Youth EE Award*: for an 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): for excellence in EE programming by a county conservation board
- *Frederic Leopold EE Award*: for outstanding EE efforts by business, industry, or labor
- *Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award*: for outstanding efforts to educate about preservation, land management, or natural resource conservation

Check on the web for a nomination form and examples of past winning nominations: <http://www.ianpage.20m.com>.

Submission deadline is December 1, 2006. Award forms should not exceed three pages. Self-nomination is permissible.

To receive a nomination form, contact:

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



Iowa Association of Naturalists

Tight Budget? IAN Scholarships and Grant Money is Available

IAN Scholarships

IAN has a scholarship program to help defer the costs of workshops and increase professional development. These scholarships are available to all current members whose attendance would otherwise be limited due to financial restrictions.

Scholarships are awarded up to \$100 and must be applied toward registration, food, or lodging costs. Funds may not be applied toward payment of college credit or travel expenses. A maximum of \$400 will be allocated each calendar year.

Selection of the recipients is based on the applicant's ability to explain the relevancy of the workshop to their career/professional goals. Student applicants must provide an endorsement from a university instructor or advisor.

Application deadlines are 40 days prior to the start of the scheduled workshop. The Scholarship Committee will make its decision and notify the applicants no later than 20 days prior to the start of the workshop. Recipients may not receive more than one scholarship per calendar year.

Anyone interested in applying for a scholarship and meeting the above requirements should contact:

Patrice Petersen-Keys
Polk County Conservation
11407 Jester Park Dr.
Granger, Iowa 50109
(515) 323-5359
ppeters@co.polk.ia.us

Application information can be found on the IAN Web page.

IAN Grants

The Iowa Association of Naturalists allocates \$500 per calendar year to its members. This year \$250 has already been awarded. However, the other half is still available for a grant. IAN grants must show initiation of a project. The funds are available for purchasing, printing or distributing materials. No funds will be awarded for salaries or stipends. Grant requirements and the application procedure are available online at <http://ianpage.20m.com/iangrants.html>.

Please send all requests for this year by November 30 to the IAN President, Heather Freidhof at:
Bremer County Conservation
PO Box 412
1104 S. Main St.
Tripoli, IA 50676

Requests will be reviewed by the IAN ExCom at their next meeting. Meetings are held 4 times a year in January, March, August and November.

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CEP Board Awards Seven Grants

On June 7, the CEP (Conservation Education Program) Board discussed proposals submitted for the May 15 grant round. Twelve grant proposals were submitted, and the board awarded seven grants totaling \$110,296. Approximately \$210,000 will be available for the November 2006 grant round. The following grants were awarded:

Friends of Hartman Reserve, Mussel Restoration--\$11,243 awarded (total budget: \$23,602)

Iowa Conservation Education Council, Wilderness and the Wildness Within--\$19,145 awarded (total budget: \$41,070)

Iowa Environmental Council, IEC Annual Conference--\$5,000 awarded (total budget: \$15,960)

Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, Landowner's Option--\$15,840 awarded (total budget: \$44,440)

Iowa Recycling Association, 4Rs newsletter--\$14,400 awarded (total budget: \$25,760)

University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy and Environmental Education, Roadside Prairies--\$33,863 awarded (total budget: \$110,902)

University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy and Environmental Education, Teaching Teachers and Future Teachers Solid Waste Alternatives--\$10,805 awarded (total budget: \$24,454)

CEP Board members include Vern Fish, representing Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards; Ross Harrison, representing the Iowa Department of Natural Resources; Kathy McKee, representing the Iowa Department of Education; Anita O'Gara, representing the Iowa Conservation Education Council; and Linda Zaletel, representing the Iowa Association of Naturalists. Board members did not vote or discuss grants in which there was a conflict of interest.



Other CEP News:

The next deadline for CEP grants is November 1. Proposals must be postmarked by that date.

Tuesday, November 21, is the date for the next CEP Review of Proposals Meeting, to be held at the Story County Conservation Center, 56461 180th St. Ames. All applicants are expected to attend.



Upcoming Workshops and Events:



Hike Iowa for Hope

In July 2005, Jody Moats's father Darwin Hartnett, lost his battle with pancreatic cancer. In his honor and in the honor of others who have survived, are living with and have passed away from this devastating disease, she will be walking across the great state of Iowa to raise money for pancreatic cancer research and awareness.

Hike Iowa for Hope is scheduled to take place September 1 through September 18, 2006. The route that Jody will follow will be U.S. Hwy 20 from Sioux City to Dubuque. Along the way, Jody and others will be averaging 15 to 20 miles a day and stopping and staying in different towns hoping to raise awareness and meet people who have been touched by pancreatic cancer.

The money raised will be donated to two important organizations. PanCAN (Pancreatic Cancer Action Network) will receive 80% of the money and the June E. Nylen Cancer Center in Sioux City, IA will receive the remaining 20%.



"Pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers and one of the least funded. I hope this walk gives people hope and raises enough money to make a difference in their lives. I know I can not get my dad back, but raising awareness can hopefully save someone else's loved one," Moats said.

If you would like to know more about *Hike Iowa for Hope* and to see if Jody and others will be hiking through your town, please visit www.hikeiowaforhope.com.

It is time to tell pancreatic cancer to take a hike!

IOWATER Workshops

The following IOWATER workshops are scheduled:

Level One

September 15-16 Jackson County

October 6-7 North Liberty

Bacteria Monitoring

September 16 Jackson County

September 30 Scott County

Benthic Indexing

September 30 Scott County

Visit www.iowater.net for more information and to register.

IOWATER Snapshot Events

September 16 - Jefferson County - contact: Jack Eastman jacktoni@iowatelecom.net

September 23 - Beaver Creek (Polk Co) - contact: Steve Witmer switmer@ci.johnston.ia.us

September 26 - Cedar County - contact: Dave Meyer rockerk@netins.net

September 30 - Whitebreast Creek (Warren Co) - contact: anne.hildebrand@ia.nacdnet.net

October 3 - Muscatine County - contact: Ellen Myers emyers@ci.muscatine.ia.us

October 10 - Scott County - contact: Carrie Anderson carrie.anderson@ia.nacdnet.net

October 14 - Old Mans/Clear Creek (Johnson Co) - contact: Dave Ratliff oldmancreek@qwest.net





Winter Workshops in Iowa County

Join LINC (Lake Iowa Nature Center) volunteers for a Willow Bench/Chair Workshop on Sunday, February 4. The workshop will be held from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Kirkwood Community College in Williamsburg. The workshop will be taught by local willow furniture and basket weaving artists, Bill and Kathy Ballard of Marengo. Equipment and materials will be provided. Registration will be limited to 10, however if we have additional participants, another session will be added February 3. There is a fee of \$105 for the bench-settee and \$70 fee for the chair. All but \$5/piece will go to the Lake Iowa Nature Center Project in Iowa County and IAN's Joe Halbur Scholarship Program. To see a picture of the bench, go to the website:
<http://www.marengoiowa.com/users/chambercom/willow/baskets.html>

If you are interested in learning how to gather willow for this project, volunteers are welcome to help cut willow on Saturday, January 20, 2007 at 9:00 am. We will meet at Big Bend Conservation Area, 3 miles northeast of Marengo. Bring hand saws and loppers. If the weather is bad, we will postpone this event to Saturday, January 27. Pre-registration is required. Please contact us by December 10 to reserve your place in the class. For directions or more information, contact Maria Koschmeder at 319-655-8466 or at iccbec@netins.net.

Save the Date!!!!

Project AWARE will be in SW Iowa June 16- 23, 2007!
We will see you on the River!!!

IWINR Workshop

The Iowa Women in Natural Resources will hold their annual meeting at Lime Creek Nature Center in Cerro Gordo County February 8-9, 2007. Visit <http://www.hawkeye.cc.ia.us/faculty/trogers/iwnir.htm> for more information.

Governor's Iowa High School Water Summit and Scholarship Program

The Governor's Iowa High School Water Summit and Scholarship Program will be held for the first time Nov. 15, 2006 at the State Capitol, Des Moines, IA. This event is being held to develop future leaders who understand the importance of protecting water quality and who have an awareness of the broad array of challenges facing communities in protecting Iowa's water resources today and in the future.

The one day event is targeted to high school students who will be juniors and seniors in the fall of 2006. Participants will learn more about water quality and its relationship to quality of life, economic viability of communities, recreation and public health; voice their perspectives; strategize on actions to be taken and develop solutions for protecting Iowa's water resources. For registration materials visit:
<http://www.iowadnr.com/water/summit.html>.





Grapevine News

Nicole Moestchen has taken a position with Prudential Financial in Dubuque, Iowa. She will be resigning her position on ExCom and stay involved with IAN.

Jason O'Brien will be married September 9th to Susan Silveira, who is a graduate student doing research on Midwest Environmental Literacy. Despite the rumors to the contrary, they will be living in Ames and not moving right away to Susan's native home of Brazil, although it is a really tempting proposition for Jason!

Annette Wittrock has taken a Naturalist position with Wapello County Conservation Board.

Trust for Local Conservation Update:

IAN voted to pay \$2,500 to the Iowa TLC at its business meeting in April 2006. IAN will donate another \$500 per year for the next 5 years for a total of \$5,000 to make IAN an Organizational Founding Sponsor of the Iowa TLC. Below is a letter from the Trust:

Iowa Trust for Local Conservation
405 SW 3rd St., Suite 1
Ankeny, IA 50023-3054

August 1, 2006

Dear IAN,

We received your membership of \$2,500 for the Iowa Trust for Local Conservation (TLC). It's great that you support the efforts of Iowa's 99 County Conservation Boards. Gifts like yours allow the Iowa TLC to increase public awareness of conservation boards and their programs, expand educational training and professional development for our volunteer board members and their professional staffs, provide research grants to increase efficiency and innovation, and to provide seed grants for projects that will benefit all conservation boards.

Soon we hope to be receiving a steady stream of donations – ranging from a few dollars to thousands of dollars. Every one of these gifts helps the Iowa TLC provide critical support to Iowa's 99 County Conservation Boards and every gift is important.

As you know, we believe that the legacy that county conservation boards have given to Iowa will continue to be vital to Iowa's future. We could not provide the assistance to the conservation boards without financial support from you and others like you. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Don Brazleton

P.S. Thank You! Your membership will allow the Iowa TLC to improve county conservation boards through expanded educational opportunities and greater public awareness.





IAN Fall Workshop November 1-3, 2006
Carroll County Conservation Board
Swan Lake Conservation Education Center, (712)792-4614
22676 Swan Lake Drive, Carroll, IA 51401
Registration Deadline: October 25th



Wednesday, November 1, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. – all sessions meet at Swan Lake

1. **Whiterock Conservancy** – led by *Liz & Rachel Garst* - Bring along your binoculars and walking sticks and tour this historic area along the Middle Raccoon River and see why Whiterock helped Coon Rapids become one of Iowa's "Great Places".
2. **S.O.A.R. & Diversity Farms Tour** – led by *Kay Neumann & Jon Judson* - Tour a Carroll County farm like no other; home to S.O.A.R. (Saving Our Avian Resources), west central Iowa's finest raptor rehabilitation center, and site of Diversity Farms, a natural resource consulting business.
3. **Western Iowa Pheasant Hunt** – led by *Aaron Hershberger* - Challenge the wily, ring-neck pheasant on his turf as you check out habitat work in west central Iowa. Space is limited. Contact Aaron for more information.

Dinner On Your Own – Meet in Lobby by 5:30 p.m. if you would like to go as a group.

Naturalist Games at the hotel following supper – IAN Jeopardy

Thursday, November 2

8:45 a.m. Registration/Breakfast at Center - Note: there is **no** continental breakfast provided at the Hotel

9:30 a.m. Welcome and Orientation – from Carroll County Conservation

9:45 a.m. General Session A - **'Possums Under the Porch – Wildlife Damage for Interpreters**
Dr. James Pease, Iowa State University & ISU Extension - We all get them. "I have a (fill in the blank) in my barn, house or building! How do I get rid of it?" Find out what works and what pitfalls to avoid.

10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Concurrent Session I

1. **Power Point Presentations** – *Steve Hummel, Ida CCB* - Become a Power Point master! Learn how to create captivating and stunning presentations that will enhance your programming.
2. **Iowa's Educational Deer Hunt** – *AJay Winter, Iowa DNR* - In 2004 the Iowa DNR initiated a special hunt to help control the large white-tailed deer herd at Springbrook State Park. The hunt has drawn national attention for its approach to a common problem.

12:00 noon Lunch at Center

1:00 p.m. Concurrent Session II

1. **Archery in the Schools** – *Victoria Schamblen, Plymouth CCB & John Haberl Carroll County Instructor* - The excitement of archery is back! This curriculum is sweeping the nation and is now available to schools right here in Iowa!
2. **P.A.R.T.Y. (Playful Active Recreation Targeted for You)** - *Patrice Petersen-Keys, Polk CCB* - PARTY is a pilot program to get teens active in the outdoors through after school programs. The curriculum introduces natural resource concepts to students through participation in outdoor recreation.

2:00 p.m. Concurrent Session III

1. **Project AWARE & CLEAR Mini-Grants** - *Jacklyn Gautsch, Iowa DNR* - Want to learn more about the annual Project AWARE River Clean-up Trip. Maybe you are interested in learning about how to start your own river or lake clean-ups through the CLEAR mini-grant program. Jacklyn will be here to fill you in on the details.
2. **Growing in the Garden** – *Linda Naeve & Janet Anderson, ISU Extension* - 'Growing in the Garden', 'Where We Live' and 'Food, Land and People' are a series of in and out-of-school curriculums with programming for grades K-6. Lessons relate to agriculture, environmental science and conservation issues.

3:00 p.m. Break



- 3:30 p.m. General Session B - **IAN Membership Survey** – we need as many people as possible to complete the survey!
Vote on IAN ExCom members – this will only take a few minutes!
- 4:30 p.m. Break
- 4:40 p.m. **IAN Business Meeting**
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner at Center
 Fall Auction – Please bring good quality auction items and lots of money!!
 After Auction: Astronomy on Deck

Auction
 Items
 Needed!!!

Friday, November 3

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast at Center
- 8:30 a.m. General Session C - **Iowa Environmental Council** - *Rich Leopold*
 The Iowa Environmental Council is an alliance of diverse organizations and individuals working together to protect Iowa's natural environment.
- 9:30 a.m. Break
- 9:45 a.m. Concurrent Session IV
1. **Goats on the Prairie** - *Stan Buman, Agren, Inc.* - A new tool may be available for prairie restorations. Look into the research that utilized goats to help control invasive species. Did it work? What were the effects?
 2. **Nature Camps to Wilderness Trips** - *Katie Hammond, Louisa CCB* – Take your summer nature camps to a new level by incorporating “wilderness” trips and skills. It is also a great way to reach junior high and high school students.
- 10:45 a.m. Concurrent Session V
1. **Craft Swap** - *Kelly Sonnichsen, Crawford CCB* - Bring a craft to share and pick-up some new ideas to take home. Please have a write-up and an example.
 2. **Proper Care of Live Animals** – *Speaker to be announced* - Live animals must be cared for properly to enhance not only the animal’s life in captivity but also the message we are sending to our visitors.
- 12:00 noon Lunch at Center/Depart

What to bring:

- **Table service** – We will have dishwashing set up for each person to wash their own plate, cup and silverware
- **Snacks** – we generally have a snack table – bring stuff to share if you want

Directions: Swan Lake, 22676 Swan Lake Drive, Carroll, IA 51401

From Highway 71: Approximately 1 ½ miles South of Carroll turn east on 220th Street. Stay on this road: 220th will bring you into the park and turn into Swan Lake Drive. (State Park signs are located on Hwy 71). Upon entering the park stay to the right – the center will be on the south (right) side of the road.

From Highway 30:

From the West: Turn south onto hwy 71 at the west edge of Carroll and follow the above directions.

From the East: Turn south onto (Carroll’s) Grant Road – first traffic light near Casey’s. Approximately 1 ½ miles south of Carroll you will come to a 4-way intersection (no stop sign) with 220th Street, turn east. Stay on this road: 220th will bring you into the park and turn into Swan Lake Drive. (State Park signs are located on Hwy 30). Upon entering the park stay to the right – the center will be on the south (right) side of the road.

Lodging: Carrollton Inn, 1730 Hwy 71 North, Carroll, IA 51401 Tel: (712) 792-5600

Cost: \$59.95 per night – tell them you are with IAN Fall Workshop!

The Carrollton Inn is located on the east side of US Highway 71 just north of the US Highway 30 intersection.



Fall IAN 2006 Registration Form – Carroll County

Please take a moment to fill out the following form and return it by October 25th.

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

Thursday Breakfast: Catered by Hy-Vee \$4.95
 Breakfast casserole, bagels, muffins & mixed fruit

Thursday Lunch: Catered by Lidderdale Country Store (please choose one) \$7.00

- Herbivore: Lidderdale Salad Specials
- Carnivore: Roast Beef & Broasted Chicken

Plus lots of side dishes & salads for both options

Thursday Dinner: Catered by Lidderdale Country Store (please choose one)\$8.00

- Herbivore: Veggie Lasagna
- Carnivore: Prime Pork Medallions & Chicken Breast

Plus lots of side dishes and salads for both options

Friday Breakfast: Catered by Hy-Vee (please choose one).....\$4.95

- Herbivore:** Bagels, Muffins & mixed Fruit
- Carnivore:** Eggs & Sausage

Friday Lunch: Carroll Quiznos (pick a sub) \$7.49

- Mesquite Chicken with Bacon
- Classic Italian
- Veggie
- Double Cheese Melt

Total Meals: _____

Member Workshop fee \$10.00

Non-Member Workshop fee \$30.00

IAN Membership Dues**

- New or renewing member \$20.00 _____
- Student member \$10.00 _____

Total Enclosed:

I am a new Naturalist and would like a mentor.

**Note: We are now having everyone renew in the fall to make bookkeeping easier. Please check with Greg Wolf if you think you are already paid up for membership.

Please Make Checks Payable to: IAN Treasurer

Send registration and payment to: IAN c/o Greg Wolf, City of Davenport Parks & Recreation, 214 West Central Park, Davenport, IA 52803



IAN News and Updates:

IAN Spring 2007 Workshop

The spring workshop will be held at Hurtsville Interpretive Center in Jackson County March 14-16, 2007. Plans are being made for some exceptional pre-workshop sessions including spelunking at Maquoketa Caves and a tour of the National Mississippi River Museum. Participants can expect great general workshop sessions as well. If there is a program or topic you would like to learn about at any IAN workshop please contact the Workshop Coordinator.

Membership Reminder for all Members!

In the last year, membership has been given an overhaul. Memberships are due in the fall in conjunction with the fall workshop. This will allow you to be current for the up coming year and it will take confusion out of the whole process. All but four members need to pay for 2007 memberships. Most members join in the fall so this will not change for most of you. If you do not attend the fall workshop, memberships are still due so if you plan on not attending the fall workshop, use the registration to renew your membership. The form can be used as a receipt for your records. Members have six months to pay dues for the current year; if this is not done they will no longer have membership privileges, such as being on the IAN listserv. If there are any questions please email me at gwolf@ci.davenport.ia.us. This will take some time to work out any kinks, so please be patient with the ExCom and the treasurer.

IAN Display Updates

The IAN display has had text updates and now we need to update the photos on the display. I want everyone to be thinking about this. I am unable to tell you the photos that are needed at this time, but if you have some photos that you think might be useful please get in touch with Nicole Moestchen at nicolemoestchen@yahoo.com and we will working on getting those photos updated! Anyone who would be interested in forming committee on updating the display should contact Nicole.

Future IAN Workshops

We are currently looking for counties to host the Summer and Fall workshops for 2007 and all three workshops for 2008. We would like hold workshops in different parts of the state. Contact Workshop Coordinator, Katie Hammond at khammond@lccb.org for more information or to volunteer to host a workshop.

Work with Scouts??

Do you have requests for scout programs? Story County Conservation Board has compiled and typed up a list for activities and requirements that pertain to tiger, wolf, bear, webelos, cub, and boy scouts. Check it out online at <http://ianpage.20m.com> then click on Synopsis of Boy Scout Badges that Relate to Nature.

Wanted: Nature Recipes

We need your help! As another way to serve our membership, IAN is putting together a Naturalist Cookbook and we want YOUR recipes for inclusion. You can send in recipes you use for camps, public programs, school groups, preschool, or any other program where you serve food.

Examples of recipes requested:

- a.. Spider hot dogs
- b.. Rice Krispies toads
- c.. Wild edible recipes
- d.. Fake scat recipes
- e.. Cool camp snacks and Campfire food
- g.. Snacks with a theme
- i.. Or anything else you think naturalists would like

If your recipe calls for an unusual ingredient, please send information to order it.

Please send your recipes, your name and affiliation, to:

Pamela Holz

Washington CCB

2943 Highway 92

Ainsworth, IA 52201

Fax: 319/657-2500

e-mail: wccbnaturalist@iowatelecom.net

We hope to have it put together by Fall IAN.



IAN Committee Updates:

Scholarship Committee:

Chair: Patt Peterson-Keys; Members: Steve Martin, Jason O'Brien, Michele Olson, Sondra Cobell

Karen Phelps, Katie Hammond, and Kim Perlstein received \$75 to attend the Region V NAI Conference in Dubuque. \$175 remains in the budget for members to attend conferences yet this year.

IAN/ICEC Awards Committee:

Chair: Heidi Anderson; Members: Mark Roberts, Darrin Siefken, Karen Johlas-Szalkowski, Kathy McKee, Christina Groen, Di Holt, Bob Rye, Greg Wolf

Press releases for announcing award nominations have been sent to several newsletters. Deadline for nominations is December 1, 2006. Nominations can be sent to Joe Boyles at Polk County Conservation.

IACCBE Committee:

The committee has been hard at work to put together another great Winterfest slated for January 22-24, 2007 in Waterloo. Our Keynote speaker this year will be Sam Ham from the University of Idaho. For the naturalists out there that went to ISU and chose the Interpretation emphasis one of his text books was used in Dr. Pease's class! We are on the downhill slope and you can watch for Winterfest Registration packets to come out sometime in the month of November.

Mentoring Committee:

Chair: Heather Freidhof; Members: Darrin Siefken, Wes Weise, Kelly sonnichsen, Nan Geske

The IAN mentoring committee needs a new chair. Heather Freidhof is willing to pass the chair title to another member of IAN and still remain on the committee. Heather has served as the chair since its initiation as a committee. Since she is currently serving as IAN President, she would like to pass the torch.

The mentoring committee is meant to welcome new IAN members to the organization. Although, it is very difficult to do when there are only 2 meetings per year. The process needs to be streamlined to ensure that new members are making contact with current naturalists in their area. Mentors are asked to share ideas, equipment, suppliers and help in any way possible as a new naturalist is getting started. Mentor pairs are meant for permanent positions only. Sorry interns! There is a check box on the fall IAN workshop registration from if you are new and would like a mentor. Information about the program is online at <http://ianpage.20m.com/Mentors.html>. Please let Heather know if you are interested. She can be reached at 319-882-4742 or conservation@butler-bremer.com. Thanks!

Strategic Planning Committee:

The planning committee met Monday, August 14, 2006. Discussion turned to questions and issues that IAN will face in the future. The committee has worked on survey questions over the past two months. During the meeting, these questions were discussed and modified. The survey will now be reviewed by Jean Eells (former naturalist and PhD candidate involving evaluations), and she will make suggestions to refine the questions. Once this is done, the committee will forward the questions to the ExCom for their approval. Upon approval, the committee will print a survey for the members to take at the fall IAN workshop. From this survey, the committee will put together a strategic plan to submit to the ExCom and the IAN members for approval.

If you cannot attend the fall workshop and want to fill out a survey, contact me (after November 1) for a copy (lzaletel@storycounty.com or Linda Zaletel, Story County Conservation, 56461 180th St., Ames, IA 50010). We want all IAN members to participate!



IAN Executive Committee (ExCom) Candidates:

Lisa Anderson, Clay County Naturalist

Hello! I started out in Plymouth CCB in the fall of 2003. I jumped over to Clay CCB a year later, where I am currently. (I've been in the county system for 3 years now.) Outside of the office you might find me, hiking, hunting, fishing, playing with my dogs and gardening. If you haven't been to visit me in my territory you should all come to the Clay County Fair! When I'm not planning for the fair or in the schools I'm traveling to IAN workshops. It is excellent to be a member of IAN. This group of individuals is a tremendous asset to the state of Iowa. I would like to give my time back to IAN by serving on ExCom.

Dana Dettmer, Chickasaw County Naturalist

My name is Dana Dettmer and I am in my seventh year as naturalist with Chickasaw County. Prior to that I was in Black Hawk County for 2 years. I have been a member of IAN since Darrin Siefkin introduced me to the organization during my time as his intern in '94 and '95. During the past 10 years I have watched in awe as others took on the responsibility of running IAN and thought to myself, "Some day I will be good enough to try that." Not long ago, I realized that I am starting to be an "old naturalist" and have been around longer than most of the members of ExCom, so I decided it must be my turn. I am finally good enough to try it. I have gotten so much out of being a part of IAN. It is time for me to give back by becoming a part of ExCom.

Katie Hammond, Louisa County Naturalist

Hello Everyone! I am currently serving as your workshop coordinator and would love to serve for another term. I have been a naturalist in Louisa County for seven years now and consider IAN workshops to be a vital part of my professional development. They have given me so many new program ideas as well as provided me with an excellent network to professional naturalists across the state and beyond. I believe the workshops are an exceptional resource for both new and experienced naturalists and I have enjoyed working with other naturalists to put on great workshops. If re-elected to another term I will do my best to serve the members and provide fun, interesting and educational sessions.

Jenny Lawler, Dubuque County Naturalist

My name is Jenny Lawler and I have been a member of the Iowa Association of Naturalists since 2003. I can remember the first IAN workshop I attended while working at the Des Moines Y Camp in Boone, I felt welcomed and was very impressed by the knowledge and sharing of that information within the group. Since that first meeting with IAN I have moved from Cedar County Conservation Board to my final resting place Dubuque County Conservation Board. I feel that my motivation, excitement and creativity will add diversity to ExCom. I am hardworking and strive to expand my horizons daily, this would be an opportunity for me to meet my goals as well as help IAN meet theirs. I also feel strongly that my first encounter with IAN should be something that continues for all new naturalists and I look forward to sharing knowledge and ideas with many future conservationists.

Angi Reid, Clayton County Naturalist

Howdy, this is Angi Reid from Elkader Iowa and the Osborne Nature Center. I've been working as a naturalist here for the past two years. Before that I worked in Madison County and Black Hawk County. Throughout my travels in Iowa I have always enjoyed attending IAN meetings and getting to know fellow naturalists. Over my short career as a naturalist (6 years or so), IAN has given me some great curriculum ideas and allowed me to stay relatively sane despite the many long weekends and hot summer days that naturalists tend to work. Along with bequeathing me my sanity, IAN has directed me into a career path that I love and hope to always cherish. Because of this I would like to serve on the ExCom Committee and give back to an organization that has given me so much.



Beth Waage, Warren County Naturalist

I have been a member of IAN since I started working in this state as a naturalist for the Des Moines YMCA Camp in 2001. The IAN Conferences were a big help to me from the start. They helped me meet other naturalists and learn new programs, and learn how to present those programs. This past year I was able to help get a REAP grant for IAN to allow state environmental educators to attend our regional NAI conference. It was wonderful being able to help Iowa naturalists attend this conference. I would like to keep helping our members by becoming part of the ExCom. There has been a lot of talk about planning for the future of IAN and I would love to be a part of that and keep IAN moving forward.

Annette Wittrock, Wapello County Naturalist

I am currently the naturalist for the Wapello County Conservation Board. IAN has been invaluable to me as an environmental educator past and present. It has helped me to grow as an interpreter, make connections with other interpreters, and just meet many new friends. Being part of the ExCom team would allow me to give back to IAN and the people who have helped me throughout my few years of experience.

Two two-year terms and one one-year term on the IAN ExCom need to be filled beginning in November 2006. The election will be held at the Fall Meeting, November 2 at Carroll County.

IAN Absentee 2006 Ballot

Please vote for 3 of the following candidates by placing an X in the box next to their name. The box below the list of candidates is for write-in candidates.

Lisa Anderson – Clay County Naturalist

Dana Dettmer – Chickasaw County Naturalist

Katie Hammond – Louisa County Naturalist

Jennv Lawler – Dubuque County Naturalist

Angi Reid - Clayton County Naturalist

Beth Waage – Warren County Naturalist

Annette Wittrock - Wapello County Naturalist

If you can't be at the Fall Meeting please print and fill out the paper ballot and mail to Patti Petersen-Keys, Polk County Conservation, 11407 NW Jester Park Dr., Granger, Iowa 50109 by October 23.



Big Thanks!

A humongous thanks goes out to Dan Cohen of Buchanan County for many years of service as editor of *The Web*. Dan has done a wonder job of developing and improving *The Web* over the past several years.

Just a few changes:

Notice a slight change in the look of this issue of *The Web*? No, your eyes aren't playing tricks on you *The Web* is now edited by Jacklyn Gautsch, Natural Resource Biologist with the Iowa DNR. Jacklyn can be reached at 3711 E 43rd Ct, Des Moines, IA 50317 or jacklyn.gautsch@dnr.state.ia.us. Articles for the Spring Newsletter must be sent no later than January 15, 2007.

Check out the IAN Web Site – www.ianpage.20m.com

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Naturalists – planting the seed of environmental stewardship by communicating the meanings and relationships in natural, cultural, and historical resources.