



The Web

Newsletter of the Iowa Association of Naturalists



Conservation and Environmental Education Awards (page 4)!

The Best Things

Linda R.F. Zaletel, IAN President

The best thing about being a naturalist is...

- *you have lots of favorite things... even sticky weeds.*
- *you can spot Poison Ivy before it touches you.*
- *you don't have to do any work... just go on hikes with kids!*
- *you have good eagle eyes and rabbit ears.*
- *even raccoons know you.*
- *you can even hear flowers ring like bells. I hope I can learn to do that too. (Charlie)*
- *if you walk down the hills too much, you can always get a new knee!*

These comments were made by Mrs. Kester's Kindergarten class last year. I'm going to add one: *You love coming to IAN meetings and networking!*

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IAN is a fun and active organization. I have learned so much from other naturalists, and have enjoyed meeting new people. I believe IAN is an organization that looks toward the future! Hopefully, the Strategic Planning Committee will survey the membership in the fall and come up with some new goals for the future of IAN.

Let's recap what's happened to IAN in the last few years!

- We now have a listserv. Emails on the listserv have been on a variety of topics, such as: what other naturalists do when starting foundations; making study skins; and sharing program ideas. It's a way for all of us to keep in touch!
- A review of policies, procedures, and bylaws was undertaken. We now have the duties of the ExCom documented, our web page has guidelines, we have a policy manual, and we revised the voting system to ensure proper voting procedures.
- Thanks to Amy Yoakum and Beth Waage, IAN received a REAP-CEP grant for educators to attend the NAI Region V Workshop in Dubuque, in April 2006!
- The new *Guide to Interpretive Services* is almost ready. By the April NAI workshop, we should have the guides to the membership. Then we'll update the website too!
- Mentoring! What a cool way to help new naturalists. I think IAN has tried very hard to reach out

to the new naturalists in the state.

• IAN sponsors the Master Conservationist Program. The MCP will help us reach out to the general public.

• The Joe Halbur Scholarship has surpassed the \$5,000 mark! We now offer a \$500 scholarship, and will pay expenses for the scholarship winner to attend an IAN meeting.

• Our newsletter is now on-line. The Vice President receives it from the editor, and sends it directly to each member. Our newsletter is also on our webpage. We mail the newsletter to members who don't have access to the web.

Finally, a big thank you to the following people: Kelly Sonnicksen for keeping the listserv going; Mark Roberts, our webmaster; Karen Johlas-Szalkowski for producing the new "You might be a Naturalist..." t-shirts; Heather, Greg (the money man) Wes, Katie, Shane, Heidi, and the rest of the membership for making IAN a worthwhile organization.

I think IAN is a great organization!

"I hope all naturalists will continue to be friends with Mother and Father Nature!"

- Savannah





IA News



2006 IAN ExCom

Many thanks to Beth Waage, Christina Groen, Karen Phelps, Nicole Moestchen and Heather Freidhof for throwing their names in the hat for positions on the IAN Executive Committee. These candidates represent the diversity of programs, agencies, and experience found within our membership.

Karen Phelps, Nicole Moestchen, and Heather Freidhof were elected to the Executive Committee for the next two years. Thanks to Kelly Sonnichsen and Linda R.F. Zaletel for their years of service to IAN during their terms on the Executive Committee!

There will be two positions up for election this fall. If you are interested in running for an office, or being on the nominating committee, contact the new Vice President. Remember, we will vote at the November meeting! If you can't be at the annual fall meeting, contact the VP for an absentee ballot.



on the trail...
Fall Workshop '05

Fall Auction 2005 & IAN Shirts

Karen Johlas-Szalkowski, Lee CCB

This fall's auction was a success and raised \$1,505. This would not have been possible without all the fun program totes, items donated, and spenders of the night. A big thanks to our auctioneers Lewis and Mike and everyone who helped set up items. The money raised is used for scholarship grants, professional development, and workshops.

The 2006 Fall Workshop will be held in Carroll County. The auction theme is hand-made items and talents of naturalists. So, if you make items like jewelry, baskets, nature crafts, etc. why not donate an item. Not crafty or skilled with your hands, but offer a unique or special program/skill (Dutch oven cooking, wild game cooking, fly tying etc.). Offer your talents for a program in someone else's county. You are more than welcome to put a limit on the distance you will travel to present a program, or include that the buyer pays gas mileage. Like always, all quality auction items are greatly appreciated.

The "You Might be a Naturalist Shirts" were a hit and have brought in over a \$1,000 for the Joe Halbur Scholarship fund. If you haven't purchased your t-shirt, you can still purchase one at Spring NAI in Dubuque. To pre-order, email kjszalkowski@leecounty.org by Friday, January 27. Be sure to include your size and if you want long or short sleeve.

Short Sleeve (Gray) \$10
Long Sleeve (Hunter Green) \$15

You can pay at NAI or write a check to IAN and send it to Greg Wolf, Clinton CCB, PO BOX 68, Grand Mound, IA 52751.





New Membership Policy and Other Treasurer News

Greg Wolf, IAN Treasurer

Membership is going through a change. Currently, when you join in the month you pay, the renewal is not due until the same month next year. For example, for a member who joins in May, the renewal date is May.

Beginning now, the fall workshop is the time to renew for the next year. For example, if a new member joins in March, they must renew in November during the fall workshop for the coming year. This will make membership renewal easy to remember, and prevent individuals from over paying (and having membership into 2010). It will take some time to get used to this, but once the new system starts it will make membership renewal much smoother.

A good indication you are not a current member is you are not on the listserve any longer. For some, this can be the last newsletter you receive if membership is not current. Not sure? Email me at gwolf@clintoncountyiowa.com and I will let you know of your membership status.

Other news to let members



Buy a Bug for Scholarship Relief

Maria Koschmeder, IAN Scholarship Chair

Don't forget to get a bug for a buck to support the Joe Halbur Scholarship! We are all looking forward to the NAI Region V workshop in Dubuque and on Thursday, April 6 look for us in the exhibit hall selling bugs and t-shirts.

Last fall, we awarded our second \$500 scholarship and would like to make sure we can continue this positive outreach to new naturalists. The program includes a scholarship for Iowa residents attending an Iowa college. High School seniors and college students are encouraged to apply and may reapply throughout their undergraduate career. Scholarship winners are also encouraged to attend the Fall IAN Workshop in Carroll County with an additional \$150 scholarship to help cover travel, lodging, and workshop costs. Applications can be obtained from the IAN website (www.ianpage.20m.com/JoeHalbur.html) or from Maria Koschmeder

know about:

- There is still money available for Master Conservationist Programs. IAN has enough for seven \$250 grants, available to assist in purchasing IAN booklets. These grants are first come, first serve.
- Remember, IAN has scholarships 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 will be 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.
- IAN also budgets \$500 annually (January - December) for members to pursue individual projects not covered by their work. Projects should focus on environmental education or topics that pertain to the job description of the individual applying. Projects may be of local, regional, state, or national significance.

If your membership expires this spring, don't forget to renew your membership for 2006, and then renew again this fall. Please take advantage of scholarship and grant opportunities IAN offers. All policies and rules can be found on the web page, and



(iccbec@netins.net or 319-655-8466).

The IAN Joe Halbur Scholarship program was developed over 10 years ago as an effort to assist Iowa students in the field of interpretation. However, IAN also benefits by inviting these promising students into our ranks so we can improve the overall programs and services we provide. IAN benefits by inviting these promising students into our ranks so we can improve the overall programs and services we provide.

The Bug for a Buck program will accept donations of one dollar per numbered bug or six bugs for five dollars and all donations will go to the Scholarship fund. The Bug for a Buck prize will be announced later. Look for Scholarship committee members Aaron Hershberger, Charlene Elyea, Dana Dettmer, Amy Yoakum, Todd VonEhwegen, Darrin Siefken, and Maria Koschmeder, they will be crawling with bugs and will be glad to get rid of them!



Conservation and Environmental Education Excellence Awards

Heidi Anderson, Polk CCB

The Iowa Association of Naturalists (IAN) and the Iowa Conservation Education Council (ICEC) are proud to announce this year's recipients of their Conservation and Environmental Education Excellence Awards Program. The winners are as follows:

Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award: *Barbara Tagami, Dickinson CCB Naturalist.*

This award commends outstanding efforts by an environmental educator.

- Naturalist at Dickinson CCB for six years.
- Created and developed annual events such as Monarch Butterfly Larva Monitoring program, Kayak Treasure Hunt and Clean up event, Life on the Farm, Earth Day Environmental Learning Fair.
- Assisted with the planning for a new nature center.
- Produced a TV show called "LAKES ALIVE" to educate public about ecology of lakes, invasive exotics, low impact development, rain gardens, and more.

Chris Holt Youth Environmental Education Award: *Kevin Farmer, West Elementary, Glenwood Community Schools.* This award commends an outstanding EE program for or by youth.

- The 6th grade Science Camp for Glenwood Community Schools is held at Camp Neyati. Over the course of two days, students participate in 16 environmental science classes.
- Some of the activities include pond study, prairie and the Loess Hills, predator/prey relationships, team building, fishing, canoeing, night hike, stargazing, and more.
- Kevin Farmer has been the principal at West Elementary for five years. He helped initiate and develop the camp.
- Throughout the week, over 50 Glenwood High School students, parents, teachers and volunteers teach and supervise the students.

"Ding" Darling Environmental Education Award: *U.I. Wild.* This award commends an outstanding environmental education program or event which educates the general public.

- Programs include Wildlife Campus, Hawk Migration Studies, MacBride Raptor Project, and School of the Wild.
- School of the Wild provides a five-day experience for school children. Students are assigned to five groups who rotate through the following areas of study: the prairie, wetlands, birds, outdoor adventures, and woodlands.
- MacBride Raptor Project offers a variety of education programs, rehabilitation, and research. Numerous veterinarians, students, rehabilitators, and volunteers help with the project.

Frederic Leopold Environmental Education Award: *Clinton County Enviro Kids Team.* This award commends outstanding environmental education efforts by business, industry, or labor.

- Program was conceived and organized by private businesses in Clinton County. Specifically Bemis Clysar Inc., Clinton County Area Solid Waste Agency, and Lyondell Plastics Co (Equistar).
- These businesses developed the Enviro Kids program because they want to promote long-term understanding of the interdependence of industry, people, and the environment.
- Enviro Kids is a program for 3rd-5th graders. Students can participate and experience everything from a tour of a local manufacturing facility to a boat ride on the Mississippi River.

Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (> 35,000): *Marshall County Conservation Department.* This award commends excellence in a county conservation board's EE program of counties with a population of more than 35,000.

- Grimes Farm & Conservation Center opened in Oct. 2003. During the 2004-2005 fiscal year, there were approximately 3,650 visitors from 32 states and seven countries.
- Developed Adopt a Drawer Community Service Project. Schools, scouts, and local groups sponsored drawers in the Discovery Table for \$100/drawer.
- EE programming was presented at 100% of the elementary and 71% of secondary buildings in the county.
- Conducts a variety of special programs like: Uncle Ikes Nature Program, Nature Friends, Junior Conservationists, Master Conservationists, and Brown Bag Bunch Series.
- Cooperates with numerous agencies and organizations to provide EE in Marshall County.



Book Review

Dan Cohen, editor
The Web

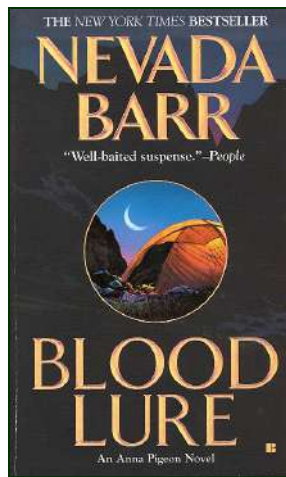
Blood Lure

Nevada Barr
Berkley Books
New York, NY 2001

Who done it?

Blood Lure is one of many mystery books by Nevada Barr. Each book is set in a national park, with Park Ranger Anna Pigeon caught in the midst of a crime scene.

In *Blood Lure*, Pigeon begins as a research assistant to a grizzly bear biologist. While baiting bears in an attempt to collect data, she comes across an assortment of characters, and one dead body. Clues to the crime slowly gather as Pigeon works to discover who could have killed a woman on vacation with her husband and son in the mountains of Waterton-Glacier National Park. Barr's books are a good read for naturalists who have a passion for crime scene mysteries. But be ready for some last minute twists to the story.



Projects WILD, WILD Aquatic, and Learning Tree

WILD, WILD Aquatic, and PLT materials are available to formal and nonformal educators through workshops on request for groups of at least 15 educators and/or youth leaders. Workshops also are provided through several colleges and universities. Email the WILD/PLT coordinator (shannon.hafner@iowa.dnr.state.ia.us) to receive notification of upcoming training opportunities, or to schedule your own special training.



The REAP Conservation Education Program has started a listserv, and you are invited to join it. You could expect to receive about 15-20 e-mails/year from this listserv. If interested, please contact Susan Salterberg with your e-mail address at salterberg@uni.edu.

Dairy on the Prairie: The Archaeology of a Pioneer Iowa Community

Lynn M. Alex, Office of the State Archaeologist

Thanks to a grant from the Silos and Smokestacks National Heritage Area, the University of Iowa's Office of the State Archaeologist (UI-OSA) completed a portable exhibit and traveling trunk available for loan to cultural and historical organizations, and schools throughout eastern Iowa. *Dairy on the Prairie* explores the themes of fertile land, farmers and families, and the change from farm to factory.

The traveling exhibit illustrates pioneer agriculture, especially early dairying and the transition to a rural market economy (1836-1880), centered on the community of Bowen's Prairie (Peterson 2004). The importance of the early dairy industry to the entire Northeast Iowa Dairy region and the relatively short snapshot of time in which these events unfolded at Bowen's Prairie, provide the opportunity to tell the story of nineteenth century agriculture and the steps from farm production to a factory system on the Iowa frontier through the rare and unique perspective of historic archaeology.





REAP

Assemblies will be occurring February, March & April of 2006, with the REAP Congress to be held in July. Be prepared to attend your Assembly, and to tell what projects are on your drawing board awaiting adequate funding. For more information about the REAP Assemblies, and for the date and location for the Assembly to be held in your area, **visit www.iowadnr.com/reap/rassemblies.html**.

Tim Schantz Scholarship

Birding Scholarship Trip Opportunity

The Tim Schantz Memorial Foundation will send a college age scholarship recipient to the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival in Homer, Alaska May 4-7, 2006 to help in the student's study of migrating shorebirds. The Kachemak Bay Area, a magnificent setting, is renowned for the diversity and numbers of shorebird species that pass through each spring.

Tim Schantz, recognized for his dedication and expertise in field bird identification died suddenly of a heart ailment in 2001 at the age of 36 while guiding a birding tour to Gambell, Alaska. The Tim Schantz Foundation has been established to insure that Tim's passion for birds live on in other young aspiring students. The scholarship trip will include the following:

- Round-trip airfare to Anchorage, Alaska
- Transportation from Anchorage to Homer
- Four nights lodging for the festival
- A copy of the ABA Alaska finding guide

Part of this experience will involve being on the program for the shorebird festival and doing an original ornithological presentation as well as serving as an interpretive guide for the public. For more information on the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival go to homer.alaska.org/shorebird. To request a scholarship application, send an email to schantzbird@aol.com, or write to:

Tim Schantz Memorial Foundation
6608 Medinah Drive
Ft. Worth, TX 76132

Resources from Project Wild Listserve

Barb Gigar, Iowa DNR

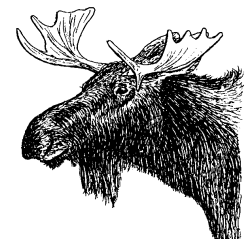
The following are some items that have come across the Project WILD Listserve that naturalists may find of interest:

Nebraska Wetland Education Products

A variety of free wetland education products are now available for distribution from Nebraska. Log on to www.nebraskawetlands.com for descriptions, or contact Jeanine Lackey (jeanine.lackey@ngpc.ne.gov) if interested in copies of any products.

Alaskan Mammals

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game has a new publication. Headed up by Kristen Romanoff, the guide is filled with information, activities, and resources. Take a look at <http://www.wildlife.alaska.gov/education/pdfs/skulls.pdf>.



Halloween Hike Booklets Available!

Haven't finalized plans for this year's Halloween Hike? Thinking of starting a hike but don't know where to start? Then IAN has the book for you! The Halloween Hike booklet has more than 80 pages of Halloween Hike information. There are 20+ themes, including: Water Cycle, Predator Prey, Habitat, Pollution, and more. Not only will you receive the scripts for the hikes, many of the themes include costume and prop ideas, information on costumes that are available for loan, and the contact agency for more information about a particular script. All this for only \$15.85 (including mailing cost!). You can't beat that! To get your copy simply send a check, payable to IAN for \$15.85 to:

Greg Wolf
Clinton County Conservation Board
PO Box 68, Grand Mound, Iowa 52751.

Your book will be mailed after your check is received. (Please allow at least one week for all this to happen!) You'll get some new ideas for Halloween Hikes, and help IAN in the process.

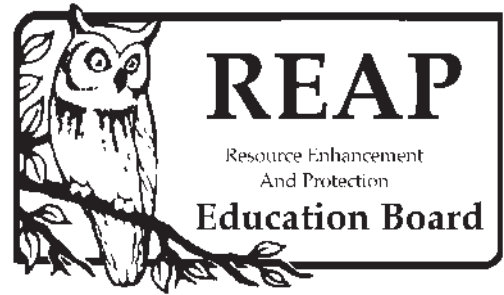


REAP Conservation Education Program December 2005 Grants

Linda R.F. Zaletel, IAN President

Grants Boost Conservation Education in Iowa DNR

Conservation education grants typically are used for start-up of innovative projects that will eventually become self-sustaining and widely adopted for use by others. Matching funds are not required, although preferred. Grant requests were due November 1, and additional details of the process are available at the website: www.iowaee.org. The following grants were approved:



Connecting Learning and Living: Reaching Students Through Teacher Education—\$23,894

Iowa 4-H Foundation

Contact Person: Janet Anderson and Judy Levings

The Iowa 4-H Foundation will combine ISU Extension 4-H school enrichment curricula, *Growing in the Garden*, *Where We Live*, and *Food, Land & People* for this project. They will hold pre-service workshops with about 320 students, and conduct six trainings for 160 educators.

Growing Futures--\$19,631

Trees Forever (REAP CEP Project #06-11)

Contact Person: Carole Teator

Trees Forever will collaborate with partners to plan, coordinate, monitor and evaluate activities for Growing Futures. Growing Futures will lead at-risk youth through a process of self-discovery, self-esteem building and understanding the importance of diversity of both the human and natural world. Growing Futures will also help the youth explore careers and jobs in natural resource fields.

IowaEE.org--\$7,810

Iowa 4-H Foundation

Contact Person: Judy Levings

The Iowa 4-H Foundation will evaluate the usefulness of the www.iowaee.org website to the environmental education community, and research the interest in and practicality of using a Content Management System for website updates. They will also make on-going content updates of the website, and communicate with new environmental audiences and the general public about the website's availability.

Iowa's Neotropical Migratory Birds--\$19,892

University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy and Environmental Education

Contact Person: Dr. Carl W. Bollwinkel

UNI's Center for Energy and Environmental Education will offer a professional development program on Iowa's Neotropical Migratory Birds in Mason City, instructing about 24 teachers and undergraduate education majors in issues instruction.

Loess Hills Prairie Seminar--\$15,000

Western Hills Area Education Agency

Contact Person: Dianne Blankenship

Western Hills Area Education Agency will plan the agenda for, coordinate, and market the Loess Hills Seminar, then conduct the seminar on June 2-4, 2006.

Measuring Environmental Literacy: Developing a New Survey Instrument for the Midwest--\$7,773

Iowa State University

Contact Person: Jim Pease

Iowa State University will:

- § Develop agreement on a definition of environmental literacy and its important components in Midwestern culture, then develop a statistically valid instrument to measure the environmental literacy components identified—especially awareness, knowledge and attitude;
- § Test the instrument with ISU students across all disciplines, analyze results, provide perspectives on ISU's environmental literacy status, and then make suggestions to EE leaders regarding Midwest environmental education efforts;
- § Publish the instrument and make it available as a baseline evaluation tool to be used for follow up measurements of environmental literacy in future years.

Project A.W.A.R.E. (A Watershed Awareness River Expedition)--\$18,000

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Contact Person: Brandon Harland

Iowa DNR will engage citizen volunteers in service-learning projects related to beautifying Iowa's aquatic resources. Project A.W.A.R.E. event lasts for one week, and is organized by Iowa DNR's IOWATER and Keepers of the Land volunteer programs. In addition, they will disperse money through 15, \$1,000 mini-grants to local groups to help them recycle river trash and educate the public about water quality, and contribute to the body of knowledge concerning effective stream stewardship at the local level and learn and incorporate the roles of technology into river cleanup.



Insect Guts and Gore!



Insect Guts and Gore

Submitted by Kelly Sonnichsen

From: Hosting A Bug Camp for Kids

Penn State University

<http://entsci.ed.cas.psu.edu/>

If you are like me, you are always looking for new ideas for programs to give either at your park or in school. I've spent hours putting new programs together each year. The last few years I have been spending hours on the Internet finding programs that someone else has already put together. Call me lazy, but it works for me! I came across this website and information when planning our Summer Nature Camps this past year. It is information and pictures about insects and their summer bug camp programs.

There is all kinds of good information and pictures on the website and I ordered their publication called, Hosting A Bug Camp For Kids. I've listed one of the activities from the book and a song. (Lew, I thought of you when I saw the song). If you like the activity, check out their website!

Insect Guts and Gore

(Robinne Weiss)

Theme:

Insect bodies include organs such as gut, trachea, "heart", nervous system, and exoskeleton; each organ plays an important role in the insect's body.

Activity:

Campers make a model insect using their own bodies, motion, and noises.

Props:

- ◇ Paper leaf
- ◇ Paper air
- ◇ Nerf or trash balls (trash balls are plastic bags crumpled up and taped to make light balls which are painless upon impact)

Introduction:

Pose a series of questions to the campers in order to generate discussion of the important body parts of insects. What are some of the things an insect's body needs to do for the insect? What body parts perform those functions? Discuss each body part and its function, and draw it on the blackboard as you go. Include these organs: exoskeleton, trachea, "heart", nervous system and gut.



Insect **Guts** and **Gore!** continued...

Once you've discussed the various organs and drawn them in your model insect on the board, it's time for the campers to create their own model. Involve all campers in the model. First, explain that you will be making an insect from the inside out.

What is in the center of the insect's body (gut)? Line up about eight campers in front of the class. The first camper is the mouth end. The last is the anus end. Campers should make noises appropriate to the digestion function of the **gut** (try gurgling noises). A second group of eight campers will be the **heart**. They should stand in a line behind the gut, and make heart noises. The third group of campers will be the **nervous system**. There should be two campers together at the "head" of the insect to represent the brain. The others should be in a line in front of the gut. Have this group make electrical noises (to represent firing neurons). The fourth group of campers are the **trachea**. They should be concentrated toward the rear of the insect, but extend their arms into the other parts of the insect (representing the smaller trachioles reaching all cells). These campers should make loud breathing noises. The final group of campers represents the **exoskeleton**. They should be placed all around the outside of the insect in "defensive" positions. They should make "defensive" sounds (fight sounds?..don't worry, the kids will come up with something).

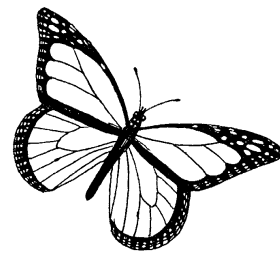
Once the model insect is together, give a paper "leaf" to the mouth end of the gut. Discuss what happens to food entering the gut. The gut should "digest" the food (rip it up) and distribute the pieces (representing nutrients) to the heart, which will pump it along with the hemolymph to other parts of the body. Give paper oxygen to the trachea and have them disperse it to other parts of the body to illustrate how oxygen gets to the cells. Throw Nerf balls (representing pathogens) at the exoskeleton to illustrate how it acts as a barrier.

Song:

We Will We Will Bug You
(We Will We Will Rock You)

*I'm a caterpillar,
an interesting fellow
But I'm gonna be a butterfly someday;
With my legs all around
I'm down on the ground
Crawling my way all over this town, singing
We will, we will BUG YOU!
We will, we will BUG YOU!*

*Now it's time for changing,
Time for rearranging,
'Cause I'm gonna be a butterfly someday.
From my chrysalis I hatch,
Wings upon my back;
Flying all the way to the flower patch, singing
We will, we will BUG YOU!
We will, we will BUG YOU!*



Women, Food & Agriculture Network Annual Meeting

Contact: Denise O'Brien
712-243-3264 or denise@wfan.org

The first WFAN annual meeting will be held on **February 3**, at the Walnut Hills United Methodist Church at 12321 Hickman Rd. in Des Moines. Come and express your voice by voting on WFAN Coordinating Council members and officers, learning more about how you can be involved in WFAN, and helping shape WFAN activities in the coming year. Following the annual meeting there will be a readers theatre event: The Voices Project; food; and empowering individuals to make healthy and purposeful choices about food.



IWINR Annual Workshop

Contact: Deb Howe, IWINR Treasurer
563-880-8950; deb.howe@hotmail.com

The 18th Annual Iowa Women in Natural Resources Conference will be held **February 9-10** at the Springbrook Education Center near Guthrie Center, Iowa. The theme is *Natural Resources: Past, Present and Future*. The Smart Choices, Clean Future, Better Iowa and Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Educational Trailers will be located behind the cafeteria hall on both days. Participants may choose between several half-day workshops, and numerous concurrent sessions.

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Upcoming Workshops

Water Monitoring Conference

Contact: Mary Pat Heitman
319-335-1576
mheitman@igsb.uiowa.edu

The 6th Annual Water Monitoring Annual Conference will be held **February 16-17**, at the Scheman Center in Ames, IA. This year's conference will focus on the health and economic impacts of water quality. IOWATER volunteers who are not federal, state, or county employees can attend the conference at no charge. For all others, the registration fee is \$20 due by Friday February 3.

NAI Region 5 Workshop

Contact: Julie Brazell
563-245-1516
phalarope@excite.com

The National Association of Interpretation Region V Workshop returns to Iowa **April 5-9, 2006**, with the theme, Rollin' on the River. The Spring IAN Meeting will be held during the workshop (see page 9).

DiscoverEquest in Hawaii

Contact Wendy Zohrer
WZor@aol.com

Come join the 2006 DiscoverEquest Stewardship Travel Team and experience the Hawaiian Islands as no tourist can. You will stay in Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge on the Big Island where the general tourist cannot visit. Only conservation groups doing volunteer work projects or scientific research teams are given access. The Iowa Conservation Education Council and National Association for Interpretation Region 5 are co-sponsoring DiscoverEquest in Hawaii **July 25 - August 4**.

Projects WILD, WILD Aquatic, and Learning Tree online

Contact: Shannon Hafner
641-747-2051
shannon.hafner@dnr.state

Teachers, naturalists, youth leaders, and other educators now have a unique opportunity to participate in Projects WILD, WILD Aquatic, and Learning Tree workshops - online. There is a required introductory session **March 4**. The rest of the eight-week 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. The introductory session will be available through the following locations:

Heartland AEA 11, 6500 Corporate Dr., Johnston
Mississippi Bend AEA 9, 729 21st St., Bettendorf
Grant Wood AEA 10, 4401 6th St. SW, Cedar Rapids
Great River AEA 16, 3601 West Ave. Rd., Burlington
AEA 4, 1382 4th Ave. NE, Sioux Center
Western Hills AEA 12, 1520 Morningside Ave., Sioux City

Fish Iowa!

To set up a training session with the mentor nearest you, contact the Aquatic Education office:
641/747-2200.



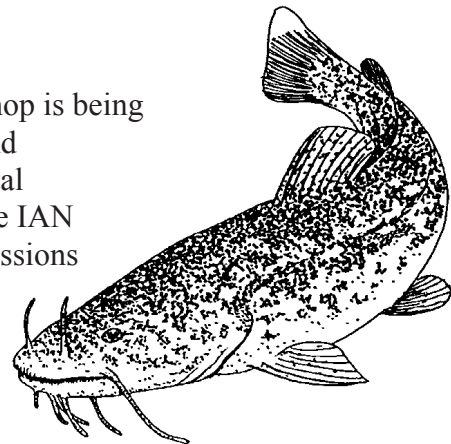


2006 Rolling on the River

NAI Region V Workshop and IAN Fall Meeting
Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium and
Best Western Midway Hotel, Dubuque, Iowa
Early Registration Deadline: February 27

Rolling on the River - Spring Workshop

2006 is a special year because the NAI Region V Workshop is being held in Iowa. When this happens, IAN joins forces with NAI and combines for one great workshop. From April 5-9, environmental educators from across Region 5 will gather in Dubuque, IA. The IAN business meeting will be held 4:30 – 5:30 on Friday, April 7. Sessions will be held at the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium (NMRMA) and Best Western Midway Hotel along with offsite sessions at Maquoketa Caves, on the river and various other locations.



Located on the banks of the Mighty Mississippi River there are some really great sessions offered. They include: exploring the Mississippi River via paddle boat; a behind the scenes tour of NMRMA; Scheer's Lumberjack Show; a chance to travel through time and visit some of the oldest explorers; plus live music, comedy night and an auction!

Early registration is on or before February 27. A registration packet is available to download on the IAN website at www.ianpage.20m.com/workshops.html. For more information contact Julie Brazell at 563-245-1516 or phalarope@excite.com.

Grapevine News



Laura DeCook, formerly a naturalist for Warren CCB (Laura Surber), is expecting a baby in June. Congratulations to Laura and her husband Mike.



Katie Hammond, naturalist for Louisa CCB, gave birth to a cute little monster named Kamdyn (Kami) on October 11, 2005. She weighed in at 6 lbs., 9.6 oz.



Andria Cossolotto, Cass CCB Naturalist, and her husband are expecting a baby in May. Congratulations!



Bremer CCB Naturalist **Heather Freidhof** and Blake Gamm got engaged. The wedding date is set for April 21, 2007.



In a nutshell – reminders



Upcoming IAN Workshops Mark your calendar now!

- Spring 2006 IAN Meeting in conjunction with the Region V NAI Workshop, April 5-9, in Dubuque (see page 12).
- The Summer 2006 IAN Workshop will be held August 7-9 in Polk County.
- The Fall 2006 Workshop will be held November 1-3 in Carroll County.

Scholarships still available

IAN has \$100 scholarships available to help defer the costs of workshops and increase professional development. Scholarships are available to all current members (you must be a member before applying) whose attendance would otherwise be limited due to financial restrictions. Money can be applied toward registration, food or lodging costs, but not for travel or college credit expenses. For more information or to get an application go to www.ianpage.20m.com/IAN%20Scholarship.html or contact Patrice Peterson-Keys at ppeters@co.polk.ia.us.

IAN – get involved!

There will be two positions opening up on the IAN Executive Committee beginning January 2007. We will be voting at the Fall 2006 workshop to fill these positions. The ExCom is looking for a small nominating committee (2-3 people) to recruit other naturalists to run for office. If you would like to join the nominating committee, contact Heather Freidhof at bccbbccb@butler-bremer.com. You are not allowed to run for office if you are on the nominating committee. If you are interested in running for one of the positions, you can also contact Heather. There are several other committees that you can serve on as well. Check out the IAN website to see all the different committees you could join!

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



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Articles submitted for the Summer Newsletter must be postmarked no later than April 15, 2006. 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.



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