

The Web

Newsletter of the Iowa Association of Naturalists

Fall Workshop Info on Pages 5-8!!



It's Everyone's Responsibility

By Lisa Anderson

The last few years we nature lovers have been worried about the next generation being raised by the television and losing the value of the outdoors. We don't want kids to miss out on the splash of a largemouth bass at the end of their pole or watching the first robins come back in the spring. But before a child can enjoy the outdoors they deserve a safe and healthy environment to grow up in. The first week of August I finished my Mandatory Child Abuse Reporting class from the Iowa Child Care Resource & Referral of Central Iowa. It is unfortunate that this class even exists, but it is a reality in Iowa and across our nation that children need advocates.

According to Iowa statute, the Department of Human Services (DHS) has the responsibility to assess reports of suspected child abuse. DHS is the agency designated by law to receive reports of suspected child abuse and neglect. In 2006, DHS received 35,789 reports of child abuse and accepted 24,789 (69.2%). After completing the assessment of the allegations, DHS confirmed that abuse occurred in 9,257 (37%) of the assessed reports. There were 13,027 child victims named in the confirmed reports. Some children suffered multiple types of abuse or repeat maltreatment. These results represent a rate of 20.2 per

1,000 Iowa children abused for 2006. How many children did you see in your environmental education programs in 2006?

What Is Child Abuse Under Iowa Law? DHS has the legal authority to conduct an assessment of child abuse when it is alleged that:

- The victim is a child. (A **child** is defined in Iowa as any person under the age of 18 years.)
- The child is subjected to one or more of the nine categories of child abuse defined in Iowa Code:
 - Physical abuse
 - Mental injury
 - Sexual abuse
 - Denial of critical care
 - Child prostitution
 - Presence of illegal drugs
 - Manufacturing or possession of a dangerous substance
 - Bestiality in the presence of a minor
 - Cohabits with a registered sex offender
- The abuse is the result of the acts or omissions of the person responsible for the care of the child.

A Mandatory Reporter has 24 hours to give DHS a verbal report and then 48 hours to follow up with a written report. You do not have to be a certified Mandatory Reporter to make a report. If you believe the child is in imminent danger, CALL 911 immediately. Or call Iowa's Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-362-2178. Please be ready to provide identifying information and the whereabouts of the child. You may remain anonymous. If you would like more information visit the Department of Human Services website <http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/> and Prevent Child Abuse Iowa's website <http://www.pcaiowa.org/>.

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Trailcasts A REAP CEP Grant

By Tina Popson

In 2003 Pottawattamie County Conservation's Hitchcock Nature Center (HNC) began an effort to develop new interpretive tools that utilize emerging technologies to further its mission of fostering in visitors an appreciation of the natural world. With funding from a REAP CEP grant, an indoor informational computer kiosk was installed in 2005. While this kiosk serves as a superb introduction to the Loess Hills Lodge and its surroundings, the benefits of the kiosk are only available to visitors while indoors.

For environmental education to be most effective, it must be conducted in the natural environment. Therefore, in 2007, with the aid of additional REAP CEP and IAN grant funds, HNC is ready to introduce technology-based interpretive tools into the outdoor natural environment. HNC is currently creating and producing "Trailcasts," which are podcast audio tours enhanced with sound, video and still imagery all pertinent to the natural world found at HNC.

Trailcasts make available to any visitor the knowledge and expertise of biologists, land specialists, naturalists and park rangers, all at the convenience and choosing of the visitor. No longer need a visitor be disappointed because he or she missed a scheduled public program or ranger-guided hike. Trailcasts make it possible for such a visitor to reap the benefits of the educational experience on his or her own schedule.

Using a personal media player, such as an Apple iPod or other mp3 player, a visitor can choose from a variety of HNC-specific content. Audio tours enhanced with sound, video and still imagery will be available for three specific trails at HNC: Fox Run Ridge, Badger Ridge and the equal access Boardwalk trail. Portable blazes along each of these trails will alert visitors when to stop for specific information. For example, as a visitor approaches a Bluebird nesting box along the trail, the Trailcast can provide the visitor with informational commentary about the species,



show a still image of a Bluebird egg, play an audio clip of the bird's song, and even show a video clip of the Bluebird building a nest or feeding its young. Happen to see a plant or animal along the trail that you do not recognize? Search through the player's library of still images until you find the right one, and then choose from all types of content to learn about the species. The possibilities are truly endless.

Trailcasts will be accessible to visitors in a variety of ways. Trailcasts will be available online at the HNC website and other popular podcast service sites for free download directly to a visitor's personal media player. Secondly, a docking station will be available at the Nature Center so visitors can plug in and download to their personal media players whichever Trailcasts they choose. Finally, media players owned by HNC and preloaded with all of the Trailcasts will be available to the public for rental use.



Trailcasts are flexible interpretive tools that can change with the seasons and evolve as Hitchcock Nature Center does. As I nurture the Trailcast from inception to reality, I look forward to assisting others enhance their experiences in nature. Thanks to IAN for believing in and funding this project!

To learn more about this project, plan to attend my session at the fall IAN meeting. It is entitled "Trailcasts: Enhanced Nature Podcasts."



Grapevine News

Guess who's Expecting!!!

Kelly Sonnichsen is expecting in December 2007

Katie Hammond is expecting in March 2008



Lillian "Lily" Grace and Logan Ryan Moestchen were born on July 12, 2007 to proud parents Nichole and Ryan Moestchen. Lily was 3 lb. 9 oz. and Logan was 4 lb. 2 oz.

Congrats to Kelly (Herek) and Nate Dix, Environmental Educator at Pottawattamie County Conservation on the birth of their daughter Lydia Rae on May 15th, 2007. Lydia was a healthy 9 lb 5 oz and welcomed home by big brother Josh, age 3.

Jenny Lawler, Dubuque County Naturalist, is getting married in October.

Good luck and congrats to Wes Wiese new Hardin County Conservation Director.

Andria Cossolotto will end her position with Cass County Conservation as of Aug. 31. She is moving to State Center with her husband and daughter. She will work part-time at the local library as the Children's Librarian and spend time with her daughter.

Beth Waage has left Warren County and will be working for Dallas County Conservation Board.

Iowa Association of Naturalists News and Updates:



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 \$500 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.

Save the Date!!!

Make your way to Northwest Iowa for Spring IAN. The workshop will be held on March 6 & 7, 2008 with pre-workshop opportunities on March 5. O'Brien County Conservation Board will be hosting the meeting at the Prairie Heritage Center located near Sutherland, Iowa. The center has been recently constructed with the grand opening held in November 2006. Be sure to reserve the date for the spring conference!



IAN Mentoring Committee

The Mentoring Committee is meant to help existing and new IAN members feel welcome to IAN and Iowa. It is also to assist new naturalists in learning the County Conservation Board system, discover resources, and learn new techniques of Environmental Education. Mentors are asked to share ideas, equipment, supplies and help in any way possible as a new naturalist is getting started. Mentor pairs are meant for permanent positions only. Sorry interns! Information about the program is online at <http://ianpage.20m.com/Mentors.html>. Please let Kelly Sonnichsen know if you are interested in getting a mentor. She can be reached at kmac@frontiernet.net.

IAN Fall Auction

We've all heard about the Discovery Channel program 'Man VS Wild'...and now it is our turn to experience the excitement of 'Naturalists VS Wild'. The Fall 2007 IAN Auction will be filled with your survival gear, camping paraphernalia, outdoor wear, interesting food items, extreme programming ideas (or bins), and any other 'wild' things you can conjure up for the event. This is an awesome opportunity to clean out the basement, garage, and backyard shed of the wild items you know you have been waiting to update...but these wild items should still be in working order for others. Bear from the Man VS Wild program would be so proud if everyone came to the conference with great wild stuff to donate so don't let him down!

I look forward to all of your wild items and if you have any questions or comments please contact me (Jenny Lawler) at 563.556.6745 or dccblawler@mwci.net

Professional Development Recognition

applications are due December 31st to:

Miriam Patton

Palo Alto County Conservation Board

3259 - 355th Ave.

Ruthven, IA 51358

Phone: 712-837-4866

Fax: 712-837-4831

email paccb@ruthventel.com

To obtain a form, go online at <http://www.ianpage.20m.com/IANProDevel.pdf>.

ICEC/IAN Awards Committee

The ICEC/IAN Awards Committee is a joint committee with the Iowa Conservation Education Council and IAN. 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.

Submission deadline is December 1. Nomination forms are short, not to exceed three pages. Self-nomination is permissible. Get a nomination form online at <http://www.ianpage.20m.com/Awards%20Committee.html>. Award winners receive their plaque during ICEC's Winter Solstice Educator Workshop in January or at another special presentation.

For more information contact committee chair:
Heidi Anderson
Polk County Conservation Board
11407 NW Jester Park Dr; Granger, IA 50109
515.323.5360
handers@co.polk.ia.us

Streamlining Confusion- Membership Renewal

At the first organized meeting of IAN in 1978 there were 16 members. Over the years the membership has grown, and so has the membership process. It has been changed in recent years to make it easier on the treasurer who keeps track of all of that information. It also should make it easier for members so that you don't have to remember when you need to renew- it is always in the fall for the following year!

On the upcoming Fall IAN Workshop registration form for Muscatine County (which is going to be an awesome workshop!) there will be a spot for you to mark your membership dues. There are only a few members who have renewed for 2008, so a majority of you will be renewing at that time. If you are not coming to the Workshop you can mail your renewal directly to me:

Beth Waage Dallas CCB
14581 K Avenue; Perry, IA 50220

Also, please contact me at waage@hotmail.com with any questions or confusions over the above process. It really is meant to make things easier!



Changes in Iowa

IAN Fall Workshop November 14-16, 2007

Muscatine County Conservation Board (563-264-5922)

Environmental Learning Center

3300 Cedar Street

Muscatine, IA 52761

Registration Deadline: November 1st

Wednesday, November 14th – 12:30 – 4:00 – meet at the Environmental Learning Center

- 1. Big Sand Mound Preserve** – *Dr. Paul Mayes, Muscatine Community College, Science Dept. Coordinator* – Big Sand Mound is a unique sand prairie, owned and managed by Monsanto and MidAmerican Energy Company. Learn about the natural history of this area and view the unique plants and wildlife found in the area, including many threatened and endangered species. Plan to do a lot of hiking.
- 2. Wildcat Den State Park** – *Led by Ken Heiman, DNR* – Tour the Melpine School House and the Pine Creek Grist Mill, built by Muscatine County's 1st settler in 1848. Both locations have been restored by volunteers. We will also hike through the park viewing the unique flora and geology of the area.
- 3. Cedar River Canoe Float Trip** – *led by MCCB Staff* – Enjoy this leisurely canoe float from Jack Shuger Park near Moscow to Saulsbury Park. Snacks will be provided, bring your own water or drink. Cost: \$10 each (limit of 20 people).

Dinner on your own – meet in hotel lobby at 5:30 pm if you want to go as a group

7:30 pm – meet in the atrium at the Holiday Inn for IAN Jeopardy!

Thursday, November 15th

- 8:30 a.m. Registration/Breakfast at Center
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome, Introductions Get to know you and Announcements – Muscatine County Conservation
- 9:45 a.m. General Session I – **Modern Glaciers and Climate Change** – *Dr. Neal Iverson, ISU Professor.* – Learn how glaciers move across rock and sediment and how they shape the landscape. Dr. Iverson will also talk about the effect glaciers have on climate, focusing on his recent research on an ice cap in N. Norway measuring the movements of glaciers.
- 10:45 a.m. Break
- 11:00 a.m. Concurrent Session I
- 1. Behind the Scenes in a Green Building** – *Dave Bakke, Muscatine CCB Naturalist* – Get a behind the scenes look at all of the green secrets of the Environmental Learning Center. Find out what works and what didn't work as planned.
 - 2. Iowa's Subterranean World** – *Joe Dixon, Iowa Grotto of the National Speleological Society* – Learn about Iowa caves and cave conservation efforts to map and document karst (cave) features within the state.
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch at Center
- 1:00 p.m. Concurrent Session II
- 1. Trailcasts: Enhanced Nature Podcasts** - *Tina Popson, Program Manager, Pottawattamie CCB* - Trailcasts are self-guided tours enhanced with sound, video and still imagery designed for the outdoors. This flexible interpretive tool can change seasonally as well as evolve with your nature center and is a unique way to reach new audiences.
 - 2. Landowner Options** - *Marlene Ehresman, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation* – Learn about the updated Landowner's Options book that explains legal methods (including conservation easements) to protect land in Iowa.



2:00 p.m. Break

2:15 p.m. Concurrent Session III

1. **Playing the Part** – *Leslie Eichelberger, Muscatine CCB* - Bring your favorite costume(s) to share with the group. Not only will we share ideas for costume design for Halloween Hikes, but also we will discuss ways to extend the life of your costumes. Find out how other counties are using their costumes at other programs. Finally, interested individuals can make arrangements to swap costumes. It may be handy to bring a list of what costumes your county has along with pictures if you are interested in swapping.
2. **Marketing Natural Areas** – *Mallory Smith, M Smith Agency* - This presentation provides an introduction to marketing practices and principles useful for increasing patronage of natural areas. A case study approach, focusing on Louisa County's new marketing program called Naturally Louisa County, is used to provide practical advice and concrete examples.

3:15 p.m. Concurrent Session IV

1. **You too can build a Chakiruthan lodge frame with kids** – *Kathy Dice, LCCB* - We will discuss the gathering and preparation of materials to put up the frame work for a dome-shaped lodge used by the Ioway and Meskwaki for winter lodges. We will then erect the frame work on the grounds of the Discovery Center using techniques compatible for 3rd graders and up.
2. **Sharks and Rays of Monterey Bay, California, an Earthwatch Expedition** - *Mark Roberts, EE Coordinator, Clinton CCB* - The shark and ray population of Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve are on the comeback after decades of slaughter during shark tournaments where carcasses were piled to rot. An ongoing research project through the Pelagic Shark Research Foundation and Earthwatch Institute has been in place since the 1990's and have tracked the recovery through a tag and release program. I was lucky enough to join the team for 10 days this past summer. I will use a PowerPoint to chronicle that experience.

4:15 p.m. Break

4:30 p.m. General Session II – **Iowa Place Names** – *Tom Savage, local author* – Tom Savage is the author of the book, Iowa Place Names. He will discuss how he came to write the book, how his research was conducted and about the publishing process. He will highlight some of the most interesting entries in the book and allow time for a game of “stump the author”, and you can find out where your little town's name came from.

5:30 p.m. IAN Business Meeting – and elections!!

6:30 p.m. Dinner at Center

8:00 p.m. **Silent and live auctions** – please bring items to auction off!
Gourmet dessert and coffee bar served – you won't want to miss!!

Friday, November 16th

8:00 a.m. Breakfast at Center

8:30 a.m. Concurrent Session V

1. **Nature for the Very Young** – *Julie Herold, Early Childhood Specialist* - Julie is a retired educator who volunteers her time for Muscatine County Conservation as well as the Muscatine Art Center teaching classes for the youngest learners. Come learn her approach for teaching toddler classes. Julie's classes help coach parents to be their child's first educator and begin to develop excitement for discovery in the children. She will provide guidance as to establishing such classes and help you to develop an age appropriate lesson plan.
2. **Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Area** – *Bill Ohde, Wildlife Biologist for the Iowa DNR (or Bruce Ehresman)* – Learn about the recently designated herp conservation area in Southeast Iowa. The designation provides important recognition of the value of this area to more than 70 percent of Iowa's amphibian and reptile species, including the ornate box turtle, western hognose snake, mudpuppy and cricket frog.

9:30 a.m. Break



9:45 a.m. General Session III – **‘Possums Under the Porch** - *Dr. Jim Pease, Extension Wildlife Specialist, ISU-* As naturalists, we all get those nagging questions and accusations from the public. They often challenge our wildlife knowledge and our ability to advise them as to what to do. This presentation will present a protocol for responding to such questions. Jim handles over 4,000 such calls and emails every year, so he has lots of experience to draw from! Come hear what to do the next time someone asks about the opossum (or woodchuck or skunk or...?) under their porch (or on their roof, in their garden, in their toilet, or under...?)

10:45 a.m. Concurrent Sessions VI

1. **Bat Rehabilitation and Education** – *Vera Blevins, Bat World Sanctuary* – Get ready to meet the live bats! Vera is a trained bat rehabilitator living in Eastern Iowa. She received her training at Bat World Sanctuary and will share her experiences with rehab as well as tips for providing interesting and educational programs on bats.
2. **Corporate Partnerships and Corporate Lands for Learning** – *Connie Veech, Monsanto* – Learn about the Corporate Lands for Learning program and how you might be able to get involved. How does the partnership work? Learn about the local partnership between Monsanto, Louisa and Muscatine Counties. Monsanto has created an incredible butterfly garden, several acres of native prairie and owns and manages part of Big Sand Mound Nature Preserve.

12 p.m. Lunch/Depart

What to bring:

- **Table service** – we will have dishwashing set up for each person to wash his/her own plate, cup and silverware.
- **Snacks** – we will have a snack area if you would like to bring something to share.
- **Swimsuit** – the hotel features a heated indoor pool and hot tub plus a fitness center!

Directions: The Environmental Learning Center is located at 3300 Cedar Street in Muscatine.

Lodging: Holiday Inn
2915 N. Hwy. 61
Muscatine, IA 52761
563-264-5550

Cost: \$60.00 – Be sure to ask for the IAN Group Rate
Hotel will direct bill if arrangements are made in advance.
Rooms will be blocked until Oct. 24th. After that date you should be able to receive the same rate on available rooms if you request the government rate.

Saulsbury Lodge
2007 Saulsbury Road
Muscatine, IA 52761

Cost: FREE!
Saulsbury Lodge is located at the Saulsbury Recreation Area. There are no bunks or showers, but you are welcome to sleep on the floor. Please contact (563-264-5922) Dave Bakke or Leslie Eichelberger at the Muscatine County Conservation Board to reserve your spot on the floor! Bring your bedding!



Changes in Iowa - Fall IAN Registration form

Muscatine County - November 14-16, 2007

Please take a moment to fill out the registration form and return it with payment by November 1st.

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

- I am a new Naturalist or new to IAN
- Please add me to the IAN listserv; Yahoo email address: _____

Pre-Workshop Sessions

- Big Sand Mound Preserve - FREE Wildcat Den State Park - FREE
- Cedar River Canoe Float - \$10.00 (20 people max.).....\$ _____

Please check the meals you would like to sign up for...

Thursday Breakfast:	Breakfast Buffet catered by Scott's Outdoors, Muscatine	\$4.00
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- Scrambled eggs, hash browns, bacon or sausage, orange juice & coffee

Thursday Lunch:	A hot lunch catered by The Cottage Bakery, Iowa City	\$6.00
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- Traditional Lasagna (pasta, a blend of cheeses & meat) Mexican Lasagna (tortilla, chicken, cheese, salsa, & veggies)
- Vegetable Lasagna (traditional lasagna with veggies no meat)

Each meal served with spinach strawberry mandarin orange almond salad, and a roll

Thursday Dinner:	Dinner Grilled on Site by A Guy & A Grill	\$12.00
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- Top Sirloin Steak Grilled Chicken Breasts
- Grilled Portabella Mushroom

Includes tossed salad, roasted baby red potatoes with veggies and cornbread casserole. Also includes a decadent desert bar and gourmet coffees catered by Green's Tea, Muscatine. Desert will be served during the auction.

Friday Breakfast:	Continental Breakfast catered by Hy-Vee, Muscatine	\$ 3.50
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- Assorted pastries & fruit trays, orange juice and coffee

Friday Lunch:	Boxed Lunches catered by Quiznos	\$ 7.00
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- Classic Italian Turkey Ranch
- Italian Caprese (vegetarian) *All includes a cookie and potato chips*

Workshop Fees and IAN Membership Dues

	Membership Dues - \$20.00
	Student Membership Dues - \$10.00
	Membership Workshop fee - \$15.00
	Non-member Workshop Fee - \$35.00
	Add \$5 late fee after Nov. 1st

Don't forget to bring
table service
And snacks to share!

Please note: We are now asking that current members renew in the fall.

Dues will be effective Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2008.

Make Checks to: IAN Treasurer
Mail to: Louisa County Conservation
 IAN Workshop Coordinator
 12635 County Road G-56
 Wapello, IA 52653

Pre-workshop total: \$
 Meals total: \$
 Workshop fees & dues total: + \$ _____

Registration form total: \$ _____



IAN Ex Com Elections - Messages from the candidates:

Lisa Anderson – Teacher, ISU Child Care Center: I moved to central Iowa this spring to be closer to family. With that move I took a full time job outside of the IAN community. It's only been a few months but WOW do I miss being a Naturalist! I try my hardest to stay connected by instructing at Outdoor Journey for Girls and other hunter education classes and of course my Ex Com duties. I am committed to serving IAN and I am excited about running again.



Cari Burnstedt – Naturalist, Henry County Conservation: Being the first official naturalist for Henry County, I have taken a 400 participant per year environmental education program and turned it into a 2600+ participant per year program in less than two years. I have not done this alone- many IAN members have helped me along the way, which is my reason for running- it's time to give something back to this fantastic organization. I have a very strong scouting background and with that has come many leadership positions. My organizational skills and ability to juggle many tasks (I have three active children) would help me to serve on this Executive Committee.



Karen M. Phelps - Naturalist, Benton County Conservation: I can't believe it has been two years since I was elected to IAN Ex Com. As you may know; elections are this November at the fall conference in Muscatine. These past two years I have served as secretary for IAN and I am more than willing to serve an additional two years if you will allow me that privilege. I also serve on the Executive Committee for the Iowa Conservation Education Coalition (ICEC): an organization, which compliments IAN. Serving on the two boards has provided many benefits to both IAN and ICEC members. I would be honored to represent IAN for an additional two years.



Tina Popson - Program Manager, Pottawattamie County Conservation: Hello! I have been a member of IAN since I started working as program manager for Pottawattamie County Conservation in 2002. I strive to encourage people to become engaged with the natural world, preserve habitats where they can do so and create programs and opportunities for this to occur, which I believe is critical to the future of healthy children, healthy adults and a healthy planet. It would be an honor to give back to this organization by serving on the IAN Excom. Thank you.



Clay Steele – Naturalist, Pocahontas County: The first time I came to an IAN workshop was the fall of 2002. I was an AmeriCorps naturalist working with Brad Freidhof in Johnson County. Most of you probably don't remember me from that first meeting, but I sure remember you. I knew I was in the right place. Now five years later I'm in Pocahontas with the job Brad ironically once had. I owe IAN a lot for getting me started and I still look to IAN keep me going with guidance, connection and revitalization. We are an important resource for each other and for each new person and I would like to help keep that going.

Annette Wittrock – Naturalist, Wapello County Conservation: Greetings from Wapello County. This has been my home for a whole year, and I have really enjoyed this last year being back in the naturalist role. Prior to this position, I worked at the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium, the Delaware Nature Society, and, of course, Black Hawk County. I have been a member of IAN since my college days, and I probably would be a high school science teacher now had it not been for IAN. Through workshops and times spent with fellow naturalists, I found my true passion in environmental education. While I do not want to take others away from teaching, I would like an opportunity to serve on the ExCom team and help others find or renew that inner passion for the environment and education.



IAN Absentee 2007 Ballot - Please vote for 3 of the following candidates by placing an X in the box next to their name.

Lisa Anderson

Karen Phelps

Clay Steele

Cari Burnstedt

Tina Popson

Annette Wittrock

Write in _____

If you can't be at the Fall Meeting please print and fill out the paper ballot and mail to Christina Groen; 516 Maple Rd.; Harlan, IA 51537 by October 31, 2007.



Upcoming Workshops and Events:

Rural Lands and Rural Livelihoods: Using Land and Natural Resources to Revitalize Rural Iowa

Drake University, Des Moines
September 20-21, 2007

A two-day conference featuring over thirty speakers examining how Iowa landowners are using natural resource amenities to create economic opportunities and the role of public policy in supporting these initiatives. Organized by the Drake University Agricultural Law Center in cooperation with the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and USDA Rural Development - Iowa, with funding from the Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust. Visit www.inhf.org/upcomingevents.htm for more information.

Marietta Sand Prairie Seed Harvest

Marietta Sand Prairie
October 6, 2007

Join INHF and the Marshall County Conservation Board as we hand-collect prairie seed on Marietta Sand Prairie! This is the third year running for the event, and past volunteers can really start to see the restoration in stages on the prairie. New volunteers can see the beauty and uniqueness of the site, while participating in a worthwhile and fun volunteer event. Marietta Sand Prairie is an INHF project in Marshall County. Visit www.inhf.org/upcomingevents.htm for more information.



17th Annual Prairie Invertebrate Conference

Luther College; Decorah, Iowa
Saturday, October 20th, 2007

When it comes to biological diversity, plants are only the tip of the prairie iceberg. When it comes to food, the prairie flora forms the photosynthesizing foundation for a wondrous community of beetles, flies, bees, butterflies, leafhoppers and ants. Hosted by Luther College in Decorah, Iowa and sponsored by Riveredge Nature Center, the 17th Annual Prairie Invertebrate Conference will be held on Saturday, October 20th, 2007. This regional conference will increase awareness of prairie-associated invertebrate species, their conservation, natural history, distribution, and ecology. If you would like more information, or to REGISTER ONLINE visit the Riveredge website at www.riveredge.us

H2O on the Go Workshop

Des Moines Area Community College; Ankeny, Iowa
Wednesday, September 12, 2007

The USGS Iowa Water Science Center and The Groundwater Foundation will be co-sponsoring a 3-hour H2O on the Go Workshop. This workshop is free of charge and will be held at the Des Moines Area Community College, 2006 South Ankeny Blvd., Ankeny, Iowa. By attending this H2O on the Go Workshop, you will be introduced to a variety of curriculum enhancing activities that target environmental responsibility (i.e. water conservation, recycling, etc.). The hands-on activities cover multiple disciplines including science, mathematics, visual arts, physical education, and language development. This energizing workshop will provide you with ideas and inspiration to keep you energized through the year. Upon completion of the workshop, you will receive a complimentary activity instruction guide and a certificate of completion as our gift to you. Learn more about the H2O on the Go by visiting: <http://www.groundwater.org/pe/h2ogo.html> or email carla@groundwater.org, or call 402-434-2740.

Boone River Canoe School

Sept. 19-20, 2007

Fee: \$35-\$50

Would you like to improve your skills to be able to better demonstrate to others how to paddle efficiently, elegantly, and safely? Join Iowa DNR's River Programs Coordinator Nate Hoogeveen, for a two-day course including classroom and on-water training for tandem and solo canoe. Hoogeveen is author of the guidebook *Paddling Iowa* and is an American Canoe Association-certified canoe instructor. This intensive course will follow the American Canoe Association's "Intro to Canoe" and "Moving Water Canoe" curriculum, and will be targeted toward those who find themselves teaching others canoeing skills, from lakes to rivers. This course will be instrumental for students who plan to enroll in an ACA instructor certification course. You will receive an Iowa DNR certificate of completion. Class size is limited, so sign up today! Course fee is \$50 for those staying in cabins, and \$35 for those who are camping. For details, please e-mail Nate Hoogeveen at Nate.Hoogeveen@dnr.state.ia.us.

Upper Midwest Audubon Conference: Declining Species, Declining Habitat: Reversing the Trend

Embassy Suites - Bloomington, Minnesota
October 12-14, 2007

Think habitat loss as it affects bird populations is too big an issue to tackle? Think again! Audubon Minnesota is bringing together experts from many fields to probe the good, the bad and the ugly in our region's ecosystems and to offer solutions. Learn more about grasslands, wetlands and forests and how we can make them more hospitable to birds. Friday cap off a day-long session about the importance of the Mississippi Flyway with a sternwheeler river excursion; laugh along with a true river rat, Kenny Salwey, as he describes a lifetime of living and working on the river. Saturday evening hear scientist and author Bridget Stutchbury explore whether migratory songbirds are "canaries in the coal mine" and Sunday morning hear National Audubon Society President John Flicker and University of Minnesota's climatologist and author of *Minnesota Weather Almanac*, Dr. Mark Seeley, discuss global warming and what you can do about it.

"No Child Left Inside"

Stevens Point, Wisconsin

October 18-20, 2007



Join hundreds of environmental educators from Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan and Indiana for this exceptional environmental education conference.

Registration materials for the Midwest EE Conference are online and available at:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/waee/Events/FC2007/registration.htm> Full conference information is available at the WAEE website:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/waee/Events/fall07.htm>

Winter Solstice

Camp I-O-Dis-E-Ca

January 25-27, 2008

Mark your calendar now for the 2008 Winter Solstice Workshop. The workshop will be held January 25-27, 2008 at Camp I-O-Dis-E-Ca near Solon (Iowa City area). The theme for this year's workshop is Plug into Environmental Education. Hot topic issues such as, alternative energy, soaring gas prices, Global Warming and the growing human disconnect from the natural world have continued to top headlines and best-seller lists. Keynote speakers will be DNR Director Rich Leopold and Chip Taylor, head of Monarch Watch from the University of Kansas. This year's Winter Solstice will focus on bringing these issues into current environmental education practice and into the classroom by giving workshop attendees the strategies and resources needed for incorporating environmental issues into environmental education throughout the state.



If anyone would like to volunteer to help in any way with the workshop, has session

presenter ideas, or would be interested in presenting at the workshop, please contact Karen Phelps at bccbnaturalist@fmtcswb.com or Sondra Cabell at fontanapark@iowatelecom.net.

Winterfest 2008

Waterloo Convention Center & Ramada Inn
January 21 - 23, 2008

As we are all busy preparing for the beginning of another school year the annual Winterfest conference in Waterloo in January probably seems like a long way in the future!

Planning for the annual conference starts in March and by this time very year we have a lot of the conference set in stone.

At the 2008 conference we again have a lot of great things in store for county conservation board employees, starting with a keynote address by Dr. Pease on Monday afternoon and a second keynote address by tourism guru Roger Brooks on Tuesday. With his expertise in marketing, advertising, and public relations, Roger has developed a series of highly entertaining and educational marketing workshops, which are extremely popular. Stay tuned for Roger's afternoon breakout session where he will showcase additional rules such as "Restrooms Attract More Than Flies," "Critical Mass is Not Just a Religious Experience," and "Real Men Don't Ask For Directions". Along with these two high energy keynote speakers we also have a wide variety of concurrent session for attendees to choose from.

Look for Winterfest 2008 registration packets to hit your "inbox" during the month of November. If you don't receive a copy of the registration packet yourself and would like to, please feel free to contact Angela Bries at sassyclone@hotmail.com or Bob Etzel at betzel@tamacounty.org. See you in Waterloo!



Projects WILD and WILD Aquatic Workshops

October 15, 2007
11:00 am to 12:00 pm
Faith Baptist College, Ankeny

October 29, 2007
11:00 am to 12:15 pm
Drake University, Des Moines



Contact: Cindy Blobaum at 515/277-6110 or cindybb@juno.com to register

Projects WILD, WILD Aquatic, Learning Tree Online Course

This eight-week class is offered through Grant Wood AEA. There is a required introductory session Saturday, September 22, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Grant Wood AEA 10 computer lab (4401 6th Street SW) in Cedar Rapids. The rest of the course will be completed on-line. Participants are required to spend 2 hours per week on-line completing assignments.

Participants will receive all three activity guides as well as Iowa supplements that provide additional background information and resources. All materials are correlated to National Education Standards. Participants should be comfortable with navigating web pages. A majority of the course materials will be provided on a CD with linked pdf files.

Registration deadline is September 14, 2007. You must register on-line at http://www.aea10.k12.ia.us/profdev/assesscurricinstruct.html#_0847. Registration fee includes materials and 1 license renewal credit for \$50 or graduate credit from Drake University for \$117. For more information, contact Shannon Hafner at (641) 747-2051 or Shannon.Hafner@dnr.iowa.gov

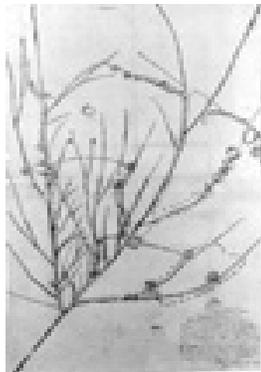


Iowa Archaeology Month 2007

“Maps, Material, Culture and Memory: On the Trail of the Ioway”

Iowa naturalists, educators, and county conservation organizations are invited to participate in Iowa’s 15th annual Iowa Archaeology Month (IAM) this September and October. This year’s theme, “Maps, Material, Culture and Memory: On the Trail of the Ioway,” will feature the archaeology, history, and culture of the Siouan-speaking Ioway people during their residency throughout the state between the 1300s and the mid-1800s. Statewide highlights include:

- Lost Nation: The Ioway, a film documentary. Fourth Wall Films, creators of the film documentary, Villisca: Living with a Mystery, will premier a new documentary, Lost Nation: The Ioway, at locations throughout the state. Linn County Conservation is hosting the film’s first eastern Iowa premiere at Wickiup Hill Interpretive Center on October 15.
- Archaeology Day at Effigy Mounds National Monument, September 22
- Ioway Heritage Weekend at Living History Farms, Des Moines, September 29–30
- 1837 Map Exhibit at the University of Iowa, September 17–October 21
- The University of Iowa Museum of Natural History will feature a special exhibit of a hand-drawn map that the Ioway presented to the United States government in 1837 to support the tribe’s claim to Iowa territories. The map is currently housed in the National Archives. The exhibit also will display archaeological items from late prehistoric and Ioway sites and current perspectives on modern Ioway descendants.
- Presentations, field trips, artifact displays, technology demonstrations
- IAM 2007 poster and lesson plan
- Native Ioway History Week October 7-13



1837 Ioway Map



Organizations or individuals wishing to participate in IAM 2007 should contact Lynn M. Alex, Director of Education and Outreach, Office of the State Archaeologist, University

of Iowa at 319-384-0561 or lynn-alex@uiowa.edu. Lynn can provide ideas for programming and suggest speakers.

The new film documentary on the Ioway will be available for local programming after October 11th when it premieres in Des Moines. Details on how to arrange showing of this film for your organization are now available. More information about the film can be seen at: www.iowaymovie.com/

Iowa Archaeology Month is sponsored by a grant from Humanities Iowa, a state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and many state and local organizations. For the upcoming IAM Calendar of Events or to submit a local event visit www.uiowa.edu/~osa.

The Web

is a publication of the Iowa Association of Naturalist. Submission deadlines are as follows:

Winter 2008 issue January 15, 2008

Summer 2008 issue April 30, 2008

Fall 2008 issue August 15, 2008

Submissions should be sent to Jacklyn Gautsch at jackie.gautsch@dnr.iowa.gov. Submission preferences are:

Text: Microsoft Word documents

Pictures or Graphics: Jpg or Gif files

What is REAP-CEP?

The Conservation Education Program (CEP) is a key provision of the Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Act of 1989. A five-member board implements the CEP and annually they allocate approximately \$350,000 in grants for conservation education in Iowa.

Review Process: Proposals will be evaluated by the five-member REAP CEP Board. Each board member will be eligible to vote on the proposal unless they represent the agency or organization that submitted the proposal.

Mark Your Calendars!

November 1: CEP Proposal Deadline
November 27, 1 p.m.: CEP Review of Proposals Meeting at Story County Conservation Board Meeting Room 56461 180th St
All Applicants are **Expected** to Attend



Check out the May recipients at:

<http://www.iowadnr.com/reap/files/07cep.pdf>

Perpetuate a Good Idea Grant Program

Starting with the May 2007 grant round, the CEP Board is reserving \$25,000/year for mini-grants through the CEP *Perpetuate a Good Idea* Grant Program. The CEP Board may elect to use additional REAP CEP funds to award more than \$25,000 of mini-grants, or they may elect to not spend all of the funds allotted for the *Perpetuate a Good Idea* program. As with the REAP CEP original grant program, only projects meriting funding will be awarded grants.

REAP CEP encourages potential applicants to replicate good ideas, concepts and programs that have surfaced as a result of previous CEP grants. The goal is to use these ideas, concepts and programs to reach additional and/or different audiences in Iowa. This program may also be used to reach existing or new audiences with new information using the procedures and concepts learned from a previously awarded grant program.

If a grant applicant wants to see a former REAP CEP-funded program established/offered in their part of the state but they are not the original grantee, the CEP Board requires grant applicants contact the

group originally funded for this project for information and for support with the new effort. The CEP Board encourages applicants to partner with the group originally funded for this project.

Submit the proposal electronically to Ross.Harrison@dnr.state.ia.us by 5 pm Nov 1. In the Subject line of the e-mail, insert "REAP CEP Perpetuate a Good Idea Grant Proposal."

NAI News

Region V is in the process of looking for a new webmaster for the regional web site. After 4 years of page design and updates, Chad Tussing is looking for new adventures. If you are interested in this opportunity, please review this job description and give Chad a call at (605) 773-2541. Anyone interested in doing this job must be able to use Front Page or another Internet editing program, effectively communicate with regional leadership and members, and be able to make page updates in a timely fashion. Time commitments vary somewhat seasonally, but rarely exceed an average of one hour per week. The busiest time of year occurs in the late winter through spring as regular updates are needed for the workshop page and job announcements. Chad will gladly help with the transition to a new webmaster. Software (Front Page, Acrobat Writer, etc.) is not provided by the region or NAI.

Workshops:

The spring Region V workshop will be in Rochester, Minnesota. "Growing the Interpretive Field" will be April 9-13, 2008, at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Rochester, MN. Call for papers:

proposals are due October 31, 2007. You will be notified of the status of your proposal by December 1, 2007. For more information about the workshop see details on the Region V website: <http://www.nairegions.org/5>



The National Interpreters Workshop this year is in Wichita, Kansas November 6-10. For more information visit: <http://www.interpnet>

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.