

## Iowa Association of Naturalists 2009 Annual Report

### **Executive Committee (ExCom)**

President: Lisa Anderson

Vice President: Pete Eyheralde

Treasurer: Tina Popson

Secretary: Reba Reddick

Workshop Coordinator: Karen Phelps

**Membership 2009:** 138 regular, 9 student and 14 honorary members= 161 members  
26 were unrenewed from 2008

### **Meetings:**

#### Spring Workshop:

Held at Wickiup Hill Center in Linn County, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, March 18-20, 2009

**Pre Workshop Sessions:** MacBride Raptor Center Tour, African American Museum  
Tour

**Featured:** A viewing of *The Lost Nation: The Ioway*, a tour and program at the Eastern Iowa Observatory and Learning center, approximately three general sessions and ten concurrent sessions including Dr. Neil Bernstein, Mt. Mercy College, on Iowa's Ornate Box Turtles, Living History Farms, Michael Perry, OSA, on Artifact, and Jason and Robin Argo from the Iowa Reptile Rescue.

**Attendance:** 71

#### Summer Workshop:

Jefferson and Henry Counties, August 17-19, 2009

Activities included Geode hunting, Dutch Oven Cooking, Astronomy program at Oakland Mills, and a Canoe trip on the Des Moines River

**Attendance:** 12

#### Fall Meeting:

Held at Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center, Woodbury County, Sioux City, Iowa, November 18-20, 2009

**Pre Workshop Sessions:** Wild Edibles with Sam Thayer and Mike Krebill, and a Pheasant Hunt

**Featured:** Three general sessions and eleven concurrent sessions including Sam Thayer on Wild Edibles, Rita Donnelly on Volunteers, Dr. Gale Bishop, SCISTP, on Sea Turtle Conservation, Scott Moats, INC, on Bison Reintroduction, Bill Heyborne, Morningside College, on Venomous Animals, and Stacey Snyder, Grant Wood AEA, on Earthcaching.

**Attendance:** 68

**The ExCom met four times this year:** March 18, August 10, November 18, and December 14. The December meeting was held with the newly elected board, and two members took materials to the ISU Archives in Ames, Iowa, following the meeting.

## **Committees**

Twelve standing committees were in existence in 2009. Sixteen administrative tasks were the responsibility of the ExCom during 2009.

### Promotions

Fundraising  
Junior Naturalist  
Joe Halbur Memorial Scholarship  
Web Page  
IAN display/brochure

### Professional Development

Professional Development  
Scholarships  
Mentoring  
ICEC/IAN Awards  
Traveling Exhibits  
REAP Alliance  
IAN Publications

### Administrative Tasks

The following are the administrative tasks that were the responsibility of the ExCom during 2009.

IAN Listserve  
DNR Liaison- Jacklyn Gautsch  
NAI Liaison- Amy Yoakum  
ICEC Liaison- Karen Phelps  
IACCBE – Christina Groen  
IEC Liaison- Gail Barels  
REAP/CEP- Linda Zalatel  
REAP Alliance- vacant

Election Committee  
Grant Program  
Awards and Recognition  
Newsletter- “The Web”  
Membership  
Master Conservationist  
Workshops and Evaluations  
Archive/Records

## **2009 Highlights**

### **Professional Development**

The deadline for submission was December 31. Recognition took place at the March 2009 business meeting. The following individuals were certified: Lyndsey Anderson, Julie Brazell, Katie Cantu, Charlene Elyea, Anita Fisher, Sunday Ford, Bradley Freidhof, Katie Hammond, Heather Hucka, Theresa Kruid, Marissa Nordschow, Michele Olson, Miriam Patton, Karen Phelps, Diane Pixler, Tina Popson, Laura Schwendinger, Victoria Shamblen, Dawn Snyder, Jessica Steines, Vanessa Vanis, Emily Vant Hul, Todd Von Ehwegen, Jessica Wagner, Greg Wolf, Amy Yoakum, Elizabeth Yoder, Stacie Young, and Linda Zaletel.

Christina Groen and Jodie Moats received five year pins, Heidi Anderson received a 10 year plaque, and Ann Burns received a 15 year gift certificate.  
33 total participants with 2 new this year.

## **Scholarships**

Scholarships were given to:

- Julie Brazell (\$100) to attend the Region 5 Conference
- Amy Yoakum (\$100) to attend the Region 5 Conference
- Heather Hucka (\$100) to attend the Region 5 Conference
- Victoria Shablenn (\$100) to attend the Region 5 Conference
- Jody Moats (\$100) to attend the Region 5 Conference
- Tina Popson (\$100) to attend the Association of Nature Center Administrators Summit XV - The Granite State Summit
- Greg Wolf (\$100) to attend Fall IAN 09

## **Awards Program**

The Iowa Association of Naturalists and the Iowa Conservation Education Council (ICEC) will present the following 2009 Environmental Education Excellence Awards:

Aldo Leopold Environmental Education Award

Sandy Fulcher, retired Black Hawk CCB naturalist

Frederic Leopold EE Award

Monsanto Company (Muscatine Plant)

Chris Holt Youth EE Award

Outdoor Adventure Club in Louisa County

Tucker Lutter

Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award

Pat Trotter, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Baxter Elementary

Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program 3 or more interpreters

Pottawattamie County Conservation EE staff

Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program 2 or less interpreters

Jasper County Conservation

Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award

None given

“Ding” Darling Environmental Education Award

Chuck Jacobsen, Clinton CCB Naturalist

Sylvan Runkel Environmental Education School Award

Central Clinton Community Schools

Outstanding Interpretative Print Media Award

Naturally Louisa County Newsletter

Outstanding Interpretative Non-Print Media Award

Jackson County Conservation’s “Stories of Hurstville”

## **IAN Mentoring Program**

Mentees are directed to the IAN website to get all the information about his program. There is a box to check on the workshop registration form to request a mentor. This helps identify those new naturalists needing a mentor. Several regional groups of IAN members continue to meet at mini-workshops. Veteran members can share ideas and mentor new members. No mentoring was done during 2009.

### **Master Conservationist**

IAN continues to sponsor the Master Conservationist Program. Cost paid out covers the IAN booklets provided to each participant. No money was given out from this fund during the 2009 year.

### **Jr. Naturalists**

New Catfish patches were printed this year and were made available for \$2/patch.

### **Joe Halbur Scholarship**

As of December the amount in the Joe Halbur Scholarship CD was \$5262.00  
As of December the amount in the Joe Halbur Scholarship savings account was \$1829.53  
The fall fundraiser raised \$1712.00. The sale of naturalist t-shirts, canvas totes, Halloween Scripts, Scat Cookbook, along with the silent and live auction, and photo contest, were used to raise money for the fund. The scholarship amount awarded is \$500. Logan Roberts, a freshman at Simpson College, was selected as this year's recipient.

### **Newsletter**

Three newsletters were produced and distributed via email. The newsletter is also available online. A few newsletters are delivered by mail.

### **Grants**

No grants were awarded during the 2009 year.

### **IAN Web Page**

At the end of 2009 a contract with Inukshuk Technologies, LLC, was signed by Lisa Anderson, President, for a redesign of and hosting of the IAN web page. The new address will be [www.iowanaturalists.org](http://www.iowanaturalists.org) and transition should be completed by January 2010. The site will include many of the same sections as the previous page including the IAN ExCom and Standing Committees, IAN's newsletter, publications, membership, job announcements, professional standards and links. A new section will be a member's only page with a username and password required. In the members section will be more sensitive information such as a group list with full names and photos. Cari Burnstedt, Henry Co, continues her position as the webmaster.

### **Fund Raising**

A total of \$1,712 was raised during the 2009 Fall Auction.