

# Iowa Association of Naturalists 2012 Annual Report

## **Executive Committee (ExCom)**

President: Pete Eyheralde

Vice President: Jessica Wagner

Treasurer: Chuck Jacobsen

Secretary: Reba Reddick

Workshop Coordinator: Kelly Dix

**Membership 2012:** 105 regular, and 13 honorary members= 118 members  
52 were unrenewed from 2011

## **Meetings:**

### Spring Workshop:

Held at Hitchcock Nature Center in Pottawattamie County

**Pre Workshop Sessions:** Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Headquarters and Visitor Center, and Bob Kerry Pedestrian Bridge tour, Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo, and Omaha Children's Museum

**Featured:** Three general sessions and ten concurrent sessions including Nature Play and Playscapes, Birding, Oak Trees, Turtles, Program Assessment and Nature Writing.

**Attendance:** 67

### Summer Workshop:

Held in Jones County

Activities included: Rock climbing, repelling, canoeing, and making fires using sticks.

**Attendance:** 8

### Fall Meeting:

Held at Mississippi River Eco-tourism Center in Clinton County

**Pre Workshop Sessions:** Clinton County full and ½ day tours, Overview of Association of Fish and Wildlife Agency's Conservation Education Strategy, Tools and Initiatives.

**Featured:** Three general sessions and fourteen concurrent sessions including an optional Blue Heron Eco Cruise during each concurrent session time, Birding Adventures, Iowa Core, Wildlife Refuge Management, Youth themes with picture books, Fundraising, Soils, Suitcase for Survival, and Bison Seed Dispersal.

**Attendance:** 93

**The ExCom met four times this year:** The summer meeting was held in August at the Bass Pro Shop in Altoona, Iowa. The December meeting was held in Ames, IA and members took materials to the ISU Archives following the meeting.

## **Committees**

Thirteen standing committees were in existence in 2012. Sixteen administrative tasks were the responsibility of the ExCom during 2012.

### Promotions

Fundraising  
Junior Naturalist  
Joe Halbur Memorial Scholarship  
Web Site  
Wilderness Trips  
Membership

### 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 2012.

IAN Listserve	Election Committee
DNR Liaison- Jacklyn Gautsch	Grant Program
NAI Liaison- Amy Yoakum	Awards and Recognition
ICEC Liaison- Linda Zalatel	Newsletter- "The Web"
IACCBE – Christina Groen	Membership
IEC Liaison- Gail Barels	Master Conservationist
REAP/CEP- Charlene Elyea	Workshops and Evaluations
REAP Alliance- vacant	Archive/Records

## **2012 Highlights**

### **Professional Development**

The deadline for submission was December 31. Recognition took place at the March 2012 business meeting where 36 members received recognition, 5 of which were new participants this year. The following individuals were certified: Heidi Anderson, Cindy Blobaum, Ann Burns, Rebecca Cook, Victoria DeVos, Charlene Elyea, Chelsea Ewen, Bradley Freidhof, Cari Griffin, Katie Hammond, Abbey Harkrader, Emily Herring, Lilly Jensen, Jody Moats, Dave Murcia, Emily Ostrander, Karen Phelps, Christina Roelofs, Missy Smith, Jessica Steines, Laura Stephens, Todd Von Ehwegen, Jessica Wagner, Greg Wolf, Amy Yoakum and Linda Zaletel.

Lyndsey Anderson, Heather Hucka, and Lora Schwendinger received a five year bookmark, Katie Cantu, Anita Fisher and Tina Popson received a 10 year plaque, Michele Olson and Dawn Snyder received a 15 year gift certificate, and Diane Hall and Miriam Patton received a 20 year gift certificate.

### **Scholarships**

Scholarships were given to:

- Amy Buckendahl (\$100) to attend Spring IAN

The remaining \$700 was not requested or awarded.

## **Awards Program**

The Iowa Association of Naturalists and the Iowa Conservation Education Council (ICEC) will present the following 2012 Environmental Education Excellence Awards:

Aldo Leopold Environmental Education Award  
Mark Wagner

Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award  
Kate Zimmerman, Ringgold County Conservation Board

Chris Holt Youth Environmental Education Award  
Palo Alto Sportsmen's Ducks Unlimited

"Ding" Darling Environmental Education Award  
Driftless Safari, Winneshiek County Conservation Board

Outstanding EE Program (2 or Less)  
Mahaska County Conservation Board

Frederic Leopold EE Award  
Jean Eells, E Resources Group

Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award  
Gary Siegwarth

Outstanding Interpretative Print Media Award  
Polk County Conservation Board

## **IAN Mentoring Program**

Mentees are directed to Heather Hucka (Story Co) or the IAN website to get all the information about his program. This year there were 4 mentor/mentee pairings across the state. Several regional groups of IAN members continue to meet at ideas swaps. Veteran members can share ideas and mentor new members. A mentoring lunch was held by Heather Hucka during the Fall IAN workshop.

## **Master Conservationist**

IAN continues to sponsor the Master Conservationist Program. Cost paid out covers the IAN booklets provided to each participant. In 2012 a committee began working on updates to the booklet series. As books are completed they will be made available on the IAN webpage.

## **Jr. Naturalists**

Frog and Dragonfly patches were printed this year and were made available, and remaining patches in other designs were also available this year.

### **Joe Halbur Scholarship**

The Joe Halbur Scholarship money market account was combined with the general money market account which totaled \$17,631.49. The fall fundraiser raised \$1391.73, \$500 of which went into the scholarship. The sale of naturalist t-shirts, canvas totes, along with the silent and live auction, and other games and contest, were used to raise money for the fund. The scholarship amount awarded is \$500. Crystal Krapfl, from Iowa State University, was selected as this year's recipient.

### **Newsletter**

Three newsletters were produced and distributed via email. The newsletter is also available online on [www.iowanaturalists.org](http://www.iowanaturalists.org). A few newsletters are delivered by mail.

### **Grants**

A grant of \$500.00 was awarded to Palo Alto co for their idea to create felt murals, available around the state for large events.

### **IAN Web Page**

Cari Nicely, Henry Co, continues her position as the webmaster.

### **Fund Raising**

A total of \$1391.73 was raised during the 2012 Fall Auction. \$500.00 of this was again put into the Joe Halbur Scholarship Fund.

### **Account Balances**

General Fund (now includes traveling exhibits and general all in one checking account, but being tracked separately in excel file)- \$16,082.64

Certificate of Deposit- \$10,181.94

Money Market-(now includes both JH scholarship and regular in one) \$ 17,631.49

**Total= \$43,896.07**