

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. 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