

Executive Committee

Victoria DeVos
Michael Maas
Heidi Reams
Chelsea Ewen-Rowcliffe
Rene Stroud

Iowa Association of Naturalists

Iowa State University, 339 Science Hall II, Ames, IA 50011

www.iowanaturalists.org



Iowa Association of Naturalists 2021 Annual Report

Submitted by Secretary, Rene Stroud

Executive Committee (ExCom)

President: Chelsea Ewen Rowcliffe
Vice President: Michael Maas
Treasurer: Victoria DeVos
Secretary: Rene Stroud
Workshop Coordinator: Heidi Reams

Membership 2021: 183 paid members, and 7 honorary members = 190 members

Honorary Members: Jean Eels (2021); Mark Wagner & Linda Zalatel (2020); Mike Krebill (2018); Miriam Patton (2017); Larry Stone (2016); Ann Burns (2015)

Business Meetings: Spring IAN was held on March 18th and 19th via zoom & Fall IAN was at Woodbury County on November 4th.

Spring Workshop:

Being a Positive Change was the theme of this virtual conference held March 18-19th.

Pre-workshop Sessions: Field trips were hosted by each region.

Featured: Grant Writing Fundamentals, Rabies: How Can You Help, Camp Meets Google Classroom, Wildlife Tracking and Essential Awareness, Common Children's Mental Health Diagnoses, Unlikely Hunters, Tips and Strategies for Simple Video Editing, Polar Entomology,

Summer Workshop:

No IAN workshop hosted. (ICEC held a conference in Decorah)

Fall Workshop:

Adventure Awaits! was the theme of the Fall IAN conference held at Woodbury County on November 3-5th. There were 95 in-person attendees.

Pre-workshop Sessions: Falconry at Heendah Hills State Preserve, Pheasant Hunting at Owego Wetlands, Museum Exhibit Sampler Tour.

Featured: Telling Your Story, Zombie Camp, Get-N' Mossy, Events for Women, Going Nuts! Fall Foraging, Running Away to Live with Bears, Amazing Macroinvertebrates, Make Waves from Ripples: Inspire Others to Increase Biodiversity, Autism Outdoors, A Naturalist's Green Thumb, Journey to Antarctica, Breaking the Language Barrier,

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Conserving Species in Urban Spaces, Community Science Apps to Promote Biodiversity, Adventures in the Hell Creek Formation.

ExCom met five times this year: There were two winter meetings. They were held via zoom on January 7th and 19th. The spring meeting was held on March 16th via zoom. The summer meeting was held via zoom on August 25th. The Fall meeting was held October 26th via zoom.

Committees & Affiliates:

Thirteen standing committees and eight affiliate reports were in existence in 2021.

Professional Development - Katie Struss
Junior Naturalist - Michele Olson
Joe Halbur Scholarship - Lora Kanning
IAN Scholarships - Jessica Steines
Investments- Emily Herring
Membership - Victoria DeVos
Welcoming Committee – Lilly Jensen stepped down, replaced by Brianne Blom
ICEC/IAN Awards - Sarah Subbert
Traveling Exhibits Committee - Jen Meyer
Fundraising – Mary Bulger stepped down, replaced by Britney Snell
IAN Website/Social Media – Cari Nicely stepped down, replaced by Katy Cantin
Wilderness Trips - Emily Herring
Workshop – Brianne Blom, transitioned to Heidi Reams

Affiliates

ICCS - Victoria DeVos
ICEC Liaison - Lilly Jensen
DNR Liaison- Holly Schulte
NAI Liaison - Heather Hucka
REAP Alliance - Joe McGovern & Tom Hazelton
REAP CEP - Victoria DeVos
IACCBE/Winterfest – Christina Roelofs

2021 Highlights

Professional Development

The chair of the Professional Development committee is Katie Struss with Buena Vista County Conservation. There were 34 participants in the 2021 professional development program, with two of them being new. Awards were mailed to recipients.

4 - 5 year: Elizabeth Waage, Sarah Davelarr, Danika Cox, and Amy Loving.

3 -10 year: Katie Struss, Chelsea Rowcliffe, Sarah Subbert

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1 - 20 year: Katie Cantu

1 - 25 year: Michelle Olson

IAN Mentoring Program (Welcome Committee)

Brianne Blom of Clay County Conservation is the current chair of the Welcome Committee.

Awards Program

The chair of the Awards committee is Sarah Subbert with Cedar County Conservation. In 2021 there were 29 applicants. The Iowa Association of Naturalists and the Iowa Conservation Education Coalition (ICEC) will present the awards at the Spring 2022 workshop.

- **Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award: For Outstanding Efforts to Educate About Preservation, Land Management, or Natural Resource Conservation**– *Kinsey Nielsen Nahant Marsh*
- **Aldo Leopold Environmental Education Award for Lifetime Achievement in EE Excellence and Leadership Award** – *Chuck Jacobsen – Clinton County Conservation AND Barb Gigar - Iowa DNR*
- **Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award** – *Jared McGovern – National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium*
- **Chris Holt Youth Environmental Education Award** – *Exploring Winneshiek County Over Time: A 4th Grade Geology Unit (for Winneshiek County Conservation*
- **“Ding” Darling Environmental Education Award** – *Building Better Birder and Citizen Scientists Workshops (Kelly J. McKay, Mark Roberts, Brian Ritter, and James Wiebler)*
- **Frederic Leopold Environmental Education Award** - *None Awarded*
- **Outstanding EE Program (2 or Less) for Excellence in EE Programming by an Agency or Institution** – *Buchanan County Conservation – Sondra Cabell and Michael Maas*
- **Outstanding EE Program (3 or More) for Excellence in EE Programming by an Agency or Institution**-*None Awarded*
- **Outstanding Interpretive Print Media** – *Tony Vorwald, Jackson County Conservation Phenology Calendar*

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- **Outstanding Interpretive Non-Print Media**– *Katie Struss from Buena Vista County Conservation for her Facebook Live Education Video Series*
- **Outstanding Volunteer Award** – *Bill Muhs – Cedar County Conservation*
- **Sylvan Runkel Environmental Education School Award** – *Iowa Education Services for the Blind and Visually impaired and Benton County Conservation Field Days and Zoom Meetings AND Clear Creek Amanda Middle School Outdoor Classroom*

Membership Committee

The chair of the membership committee is Victoria DeVos with Plymouth County Conservation. In 2021, there were a total of 190 members (183 regular and 7 honorary).

Junior Naturalist

The chair of the Junior Naturalist committee is Michele Olsen with Jones County Conservation. Patches will be replaced by stickers in upcoming years.

Newsletter

Heidi Reams was the editor for “The Web” newsletter submissions. Three newsletters were produced and distributed via email. The newsletter is also available online at www.iowanaturalists.org

REAP Alliance Liaison

Joe McGovern & Tom Hazelton are the committee Chair. There was nothing reported.

IAN Web Page

Katy Cantin is the committee chair. A website user questionnaire was sent to membership and Katy has been updating the page.

Fundraising

The new fundraising chair is Britney Snell. The fall fundraising event included minute-to-win-it activities.

Joe Halbur Memorial Scholarship

The chair of the Joe Halbur Memorial Scholarship is Lora Kanning. The 2021 winners were Avery Keenan and Molly Simmons. Lora is making a document of winners and their home counties for counties looking for interns.

IAN Scholarships

The chair is Jessica Steins. They had ten applicants this year and nine were accepted. Five scholarships went to members and four went to students.

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Traveling Exhibits Committee

The chair of the Traveling Exhibits Committee is Jen Meyer with Jackson County Conservation. There are currently six available exhibits: Tallgrass Prairie, Secrets of the Slough, Secrets of the Shell, Get the Lead Out, The Snake Exhibit, and an albino animal exhibit.

Accounting Balances as of December, 2021

Checking: \$34,775.27

General Savings: \$19,353.15

Joe Savings: \$5,907.69

Total Net: \$60,036.11

EXCOM Elections

At the end of 2021 Brianne Blom and Emily Ostrander are exiting the Committee. The newly elected ExCom members are Michael Maas (Buchanan CCB) and Victoria DeVos (Plymouth CCB). Chelsea Ewen Rowcliffe (Mitchell CCB) was re-elected. Heidi Reams (Floyd CCB), and Rene Stroud (Pott. CCB) are continuing their two year term.