



Iowa Association of Naturalists

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

www.iowanaturalists.org

Executive Committee

Victoria DeVos

Michael Maas

Heidi Reams

Chelsea Ewen-Rowcliffe

Rene Stroud

Iowa Association of Naturalists

2022 Annual Report

Submitted by Secretary, Rene Stroud

Executive Committee (ExCom)

President: Chelsea Ewen Rowcliffe

Vice President: Micheal Maas

Treasurer: Victoria DeVos

Secretary: Rene Stroud

Workshop Coordinator: Heidi Reams

As of Fall 2022-Officer-at-Large: Bobbi Donovan

ExCom met five times this year: January 3rd and 4th meetings were held at the Scharnberg Park Cabins in Clay County, the March 9th meeting took place in Jackson County, the August 15th meeting was held at Iowa State University, and the November 2nd meeting was held in Muscatine County.

Business Meetings: Spring IAN Business Meeting was held on March 10th at Jackson County & Fall IAN Business Meeting was held in Muscatine County on November 3rd.

Spring Workshop:

Jackson County Conservation; March 9-11th, 2022. There were 80 participants registered.

Pre-workshop Sessions: Bur Oak Land Trust Chainsaw Academy, Birding at Green Island, Rock Wrapping

Featured: Living in a World of Wounds; Media Matters: Crafting Compelling Stories for Local Media; Decolonizing and Diversifying natural resources education: Experiences at Iowa State University Extension and Outreach; Fishing Has No Boundaries; Forestry Walk-It's Okay to Harvest Trees; ID and Protection of High Quality Natural Areas; Naturalists Skills Course; Cultivating a Volunteer-Led Citizen Science Program: Bumblebee Surveys, Turtle Rescue, and Captive Care; Communicating Science with Stories; Rafting the Mississippi River to Hawaii: an Adventure Across our Synthetic Seas; Connecting Injured Wildlife with Rehabilitators; and University of Dubuque Environmental Science Student Research Showcase.

Summer Workshop: Seventeen participants learned about service learning projects and more during the Summer Wilderness Stewardship Workshop on Aug. 26-30th in Ely Minnesota - Boundary Waters Canoe Area.



Iowa Association of Naturalists

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

www.iowanaturalists.org

Executive Committee

Victoria DeVos

Michael Maas

Heidi Reams

Chelsea Ewen-Rowcliffe

Rene Stroud

Fall Workshop: "Changes Along the Mississippi" was the theme of the Fall IAN conference held by Muscatine & Louisa County on November 2-4th. There were 97 registered attendees.

Pre-workshop Sessions: Big Sand Mound field trip and Laura's Nature Art workshop

Featured: Amphibian & Reptile Conservation Area; Grant Writing-Do's & Don'ts; "It's A Wrap"-The New Era Ahead for ICCS; Take a Kid Outdoors; Bird Friendly Iowa; Magnifying Nature with Preschool; Apps Apps Apps; The Gift of NO; Monarch Adventures in Mexico; Explore Discovery Park on your own; Leave No Trace; Teaching Elementary Geology Isn't Hard; Worm Bins; Unique Fishing of the Mississippi River and a look at the Commercial Fishing industry along the Iowa portion of the Mississippi River; Graduate Research Project-Diversity; Equality & Inclusion Practices; Stories from Mussely Men; Native American Games; Financial Peace; Unique Program Roundtable; Outside Naturalists Skills-part 2.

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

Committees & Affiliates:

Eleven standing committees and seven affiliates in existence in 2022.

Committees

Professional Development - Katie Struss

Junior Naturalist - Michele Olson

Joe Halbur Scholarship - Lora Kanning

IAN Scholarships - Faith Hunt

Membership - Victoria DeVos

Welcoming Committee - Brianne Blom

ICEC/IAN Awards - Sarah Subbert

Traveling Exhibits Committee - Jen Meyer

Fundraising - Britney Snell

Wilderness Trips - Emily Herring now Tony Vorwald

Workshop- Heidi Reams

Affiliates

ICCS: Victoria DeVos/transitioning to Bobbi Donovan

ICEC Liaison: Lilly Jensen

IDNR Liaison: Holly Schulte

NAI Liaison: Heather Hucka

REAP Alliance: Amy Warnke



Iowa Association of Naturalists

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

www.iowanaturalists.org

Executive Committee

Victoria DeVos

Michael Maas

Heidi Reams

Chelsea Ewen-Rowcliffe

Rene Stroud

REAP CEP: Victoria DeVos

ICCBE: Christina Roelofs

2022 Highlights

Professional Development

The chair of the Professional Development committee is Katie Struss with Buena Vista County Conservation. There were 43 participants in the 2022 professional development program, 11 of those applicants were first timers.

We had 4 naturalists reach 5 years: Mary Bulger, Kinsey Nielsen, Ashley Scheve, and James Wiebler. We had 3 naturalists achieve 10 years: Becky Baugh, Abbey Harkrader, and Theresa Kruid

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 2022, there were 21 applicants. The Iowa Association of Naturalists and the Iowa Conservation Education Coalition (ICEC) presented the awards at the Spring workshop.

Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award For Outstanding Efforts by an Environmental Educator WINNER: Jared McGovern Aquarium National Mississippi River Museum

Chris Holt Youth Environmental Education Award WINNER: Exploring Winneshiek County Over Time: A 4th Geology Unit (for Winneshiek County Conservation)

Ding ” Darling Environmental Education Award WINNER: Building Better Birder and Citizen Scientists Workshops (Kelly J. McKay (Bio Eco Research and Monitoring Center), Mark Roberts (Clinton County Conservation), Brian Ritter and James Wiebler (Nahant Marsh Education Center)

Outstanding Environmental Education Program (two or less Naturalists)

WINNERS: Buchanan County Conservation Sondra Cabell and Michael Maas

Aldo Leopold Environmental Education Award WINNERS: Chuck Jacobsen-Clinton County Conservation and Barb Gigar-Iowa DNR



Iowa Association of Naturalists

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

www.iowanaturalists.org

Executive Committee

Victoria DeVos

Michael Maas

Heidi Reams

Chelsea Ewen-Rowcliffe

Rene Stroud

Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award WINNER: Kinsey Nielsen Nahant Marsh

Outstanding Interpretative Print Media WINNER: Tony Vorwald Jackson County Conservation Phenology Calendar

Outstanding Interpretative NonPrint Media WINNER: Katie Struss — Buena Vista County Conservation for the “Facebook Live Education Video” Series.

Sylvan Runkel Award. WINNERS: Iowa Education Services for the Blind and Visually impaired with Benton County Conservation Field Days and Zoom Meetings, and the Clear Creek Amana Middle School.

Outstanding Volunteer Award WINNER: Bill Muhs Cedar County Conservation

Membership

The chair of the membership committee is Victoria DeVos with Plymouth County Conservation. In 2022, there were a total of 194 members (187 regular and 7 honorary).

Junior Naturalist

The chair of the Junior Naturalist committee is Michele Olsen with Jones County Conservation. Patches are still being sold until inventory runs out. Patches will eventually be replaced by bamboo stickers.

Newsletter

Michael Maas is the editor for “The Web” newsletter submissions. Newsletters are distributed via email and they are available online at www.iowanaturalists.org. The newsletter format is under review by ExCom and membership. The last publication was in the spring of 2022.

IDNR Liaison

New outreach trailers are available for check-out, outdoor skills training will be offered, and archery range grants are available.

NAI Liaison

NAI has asked IAN to co-host the 2024 spring NAI conference in western IA/Eastern NE.

REAP Alliance

Amy Warnke-They are continuing to advocate for IWILL. Continue to ask your legislatures to fund the bill.



Iowa Association of Naturalists

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

www.iowanaturalists.org

Executive Committee

Victoria DeVos

Michael Maas

Heidi Reams

Chelsea Ewen-Rowcliffe

Rene Stroud

REAP CEP

Victoria DeVos- Grants are due May 16th and Nov 6th. Before submitting a grant you are encouraged to watch a grant review via zoom and/or ask the grant review committee questions.

IAN Web Page

Due to the size and scope of the website changes, the IAN ExCom is now responsible for the page.

Fundraising

The new fundraising chair is Britney Snell. The fall fundraising event asked membership to bring items to represent their district. A total of 6 baskets were raffled off. The raffle game included ripped halved playing cards in each bucket per basket, that were drawn and matched to the winner's other card half.

Joe Halbur Memorial Scholarship

The chair of the Joe Halbur Memorial Scholarship is Lora Kanning. The 2022 winners were Marisa Kelsey and Marissa Lindemann. Lora is making a document of winners and their home counties for counties looking for interns.

IAN Scholarships

The chair is Faith Hunt. They awarded three scholarships and they plan on updating their online forms.

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. The committee is working on revamping the Tallgrass Prairie exhibit with one of three new topics.

Accounting Balances as of November 2022

Checking: \$29,790.05

General Savings: \$19,354.70

Joe Savings: \$1,9354.70

Total Net: \$59,973.32



Iowa Association of Naturalists

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

www.iowanaturalists.org

Executive Committee

Victoria DeVos

Michael Maas

Heidi Reams

Chelsea Ewen-Rowcliffe

Rene Stroud

EXCOM Elections

At the end of 2022, The new position of Officer-at-Large was filled by Bobbi Donovan (Story CCB). ExCom members are Chelsea Ewen Rowcliffe (Mitchell CCB), Michael Maas (Buchanan CCB), and Victoria DeVos (Plymouth CCB). Heidi Reams (Floyd CCB), and Rene Stroud (Pottawattamie CCB) were re-elected.