



The Web

Newsletter of the Iowa Association of Naturalists



IAN Summer Workshop (pages 6-7)!

IAN Professional Standards and Professional Development Recognition

Miriam Patton, Palo Alto CCB

I was asked to write a few paragraphs for the newsletter on IAN Professional Standards and Professional Development. These two items were discussed at the Spring IAN meeting along with Darrin Seifken's Master's thesis research. The Standards were created to provide an outline for academic training, to help employers in writing job descriptions and hiring interpreters, to give direction to practicing interpreters seeking to upgrade their skills and to help define interpretation as a profession. The Standards were considered a helpful tool for our individual members and the profession as a whole.

The IAN Professional Development program takes the Standards one step further by creating a program to encourage naturalists to attend continuing education workshops, and to recognize these efforts. By looking more closely at the six knowledge



and skill areas listed, we hope that members will seek out opportunities to grow in new directions. This program is voluntary. We encourage participation, but do not want this to be intimidating in any way. IAN is a group of people from many different educational backgrounds. We appreciate the diversity of our membership. The strengths of each individual and each program across the state make us unique. Through our organization, we have the ability to share new trends in education and network with other professionals, making each of us better interpreters. Our meetings are meant to be fun. We want to continue the great sharing of ideas, philosophies and friendships. Your suggestions are always welcome as we continue down this road in strengthening our profession.

2003 Professional Development Recognition

The following people were recognized at the Spring IAN meeting for their 20 hours of continued professional development. We had 34 recipient this year, including five new applicants. Those with an asterisk after their name are five-year recipients. Congratulations to all!

- Heidi Anderson*
- Julie Brazell
- Ann Burns
- Sondra Cabell
- Katie Cantu
- Dawn Chapman
- Katie Dalton
- Dana Dettmer*
- Kathy Dice
- Rochelle Ebel
- Charlene Elyea
- Anita Fisher
- Sunday Ford
- Bradley Freidhof
- Heather Freidhof
- Laura Hamilton
- Pamela Holz*
- Jerry Keys
- Maria Koschmeder
- Theresa Kruid
- Jody Moats
- Heather Niec
- Michele Olson
- Miriam Patton
- Kim Perlstein-Rowley
- Diane Pixler
- Tina Popson
- Mark Roberts*
- Kelly Sonnichsen
- Shane Vondracek
- Todd Von Ehwegen
- Greg Wolf
- Amy Yoakum
- Linda Zaletel

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Voting

Linda R.F. Zaletel
IAN President

I'm urging you to vote for your candidate in the Fall IAN Election! Voting is a right in this country. Historically, the right to vote has had a great impact on our nation.

We need members to participate! The number of members who vote for officers has been declining in recent years. We need ALL members to participate. Remember to VOTE in the upcoming IAN election!



NAI Professional Awards

Consider putting forth your nomination in the National Association for Interpretation's (NAI) Awards Program. Award categories include:

- Fellow (career achievement)
- Master Interpreter
- Outstanding New Interpreter
- Outstanding Senior/Retired Interpreter
- Outstanding Interpretive Volunteer
- Meritorious Service (to NAI)
- Excellence in Interpretive Support
- Community Interpretive Service
- Special Awards (fit in no category)

The nomination deadline is June 1. For more information contact Brian Cahill (bcahill@parks.ca.gov/760-767-3716), or visit www.interpnet.com.



IAN Committee Updates

IAN/ICEC Awards

Chairs:

Shane Vondracek, Sac CCB
Pamela Holz, Washington CCB

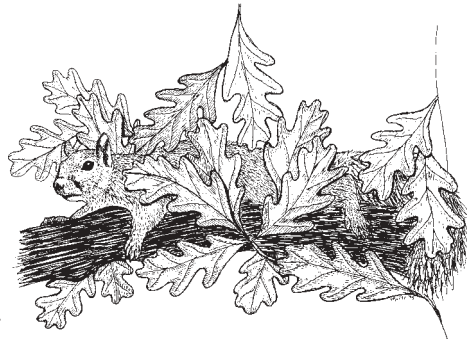
Progress:

Recipients from the Conservation and Environmental Education Excellence Awards Program received their plaques during ICEC's Winter Solstice Educator Workshop or at IAN's Spring Meeting. A list of recipients, and descriptions of their award-winning efforts, are shown on page five.



The Iowa Association of Naturalists and the Iowa Conservation Education Council would like to thank all those nominated for their efforts in conservation education and hope their efforts will continue.

Other award categories are the Sylvan Runkel Environmental Education School Award for whole-school program and the Frederic Leopold Environmental Education Award for Business, Industry, or Labor. The deadline for 2004 nominations is December 1.



IAN Mentoring Program

Chair:

Heather Freidhof, Bremer CCB

Progress:

Certificates were given out to current mentors at Spring IAN. One additional mentor pair has been added since. Shane Vondracek is a mentor for Steve Hummel (Ida County). We are currently at ten mentor/mentee pairs. Five moles were revealed at Spring IAN. They were Jerry Keys, Katie Dalton, Julie Brazell, Shane Vondracek, and Greg Wolf. If you know of any new naturalists who need a mentor, contact Heather Freidhof.

Jr. Naturalist

Chair:

Joel Van Roekel,
Warren CCB

Progress:

The Iowa Jr. Naturalist program is still active and out there for you to use in your county. Joel in Warren County houses the patches and brochure masters. He will be happy to talk to you about any questions you may have. A new patch was created this year featuring a bluegill and it is ready. Also available are the dragonfly, wild rose and goldfinch. Patches are \$1 each and Joel can be contacted either by phone (515)-961-6169 ext. 14 or e-mail, joelvanroekel@mindspring.com.



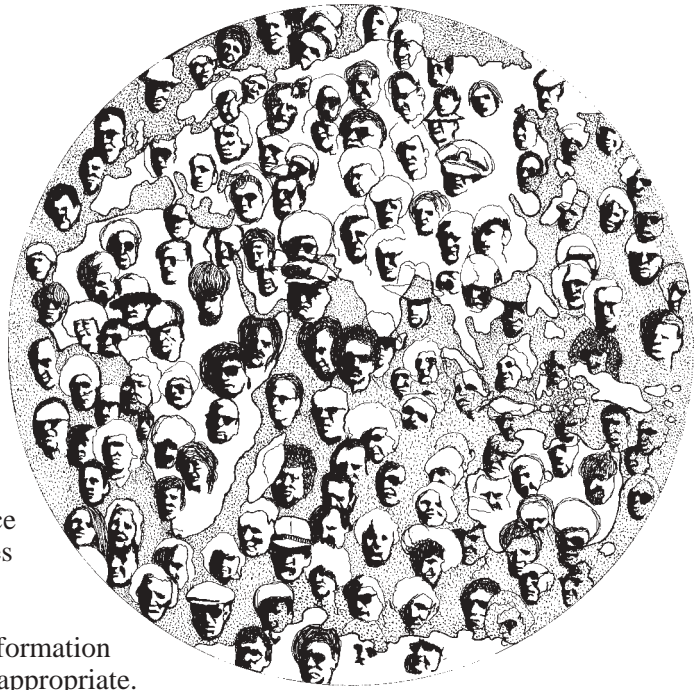
Policies and Procedures: Why Do We Need Them?

Linda R.F. Zaletel, IAN President

Policies and procedures, how boring. I can remember back when I started in the conservation system and at IAN. Both organizations were small, and it was easy to remember what each employee and member had to do. As both organizations grew, so did the responsibilities for each member. Why does IAN need policies and procedures? It's all about growth and memory. Being an OWLN (older, wiser?, livelier naturalist), my memory no longer serves me like it used to. When I became a member of the ExCom, I realized that I hadn't read the bylaws since they were written. So, when looking for certain changes that IAN has made through the years, I had a hard time finding when and where the changes happened.

Therefore the idea of having a small booklet of information about each officer's responsibilities and duties seemed appropriate. Technology has also changed. It's so nice that when we need help or information, we can tap into the naturalists' email system. But it's time to set some guidelines for that technology. Some procedures are pretty mundane, i.e., the secretary takes the minutes. Recently the ExCom had to vote on a tie, but there were no guidelines. What then? A committee has been formed and, over the summer, the committee hopes to come up with a simple policy and procedure manual. The manual will be passed on to each newly elected ExCom member and can be updated every year.

(P.S. When a group has been elected and there is a tie for one of the offices, it's decided by drawing a name out of the hat according to our auditor! In New Mexico, it's decided by who wins a hand of poker!)



Eula Hagie Heritage Award

The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation is seeking nominees who have demonstrated an extraordinary personal service and commitment to improving the quality of Iowa's natural environment and encourage others to do the same. The recipient is presented with \$1,000 and a hand-carved sculpture in recognition of their achievements. All nominees will receive a certificate of nomination and press releases.

Nominations must include two letters of recommendation. The deadline is May 28. Contact Cathy Engstrom at INHF for more information (cengstrom@inhf.org; 800-475-1846; www.inhf.org/hagie.htm).



Application for IAN membership

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Is this address for work? _____ Home? _____
 Agency or other affiliation _____ County _____
 Work e-mail _____ Home e-mail _____
 Work phone _____ Home phone _____
 Cell phone _____ FAX _____
 Membership Type: Regular (\$20) _____ Student (\$10) _____
 New _____ Renewal _____

Make checks payable to IAN, and mail to:
 Greg Wolf, IAN Treasurer, P.O. Box 68, Grand Mound, IA 52751-0068



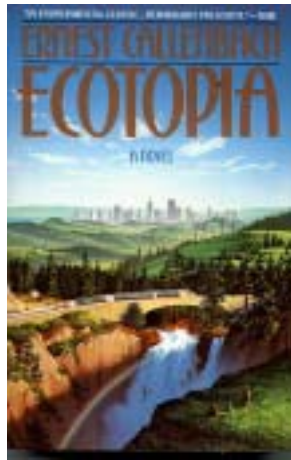
Book Review

Dan Cohen
Editor, *The Web*

Ecotopia

Ernest Callenbach
Bantam Books
Berkeley, CA; 1975

Ecotopia is a classic environmental science fiction joy ride from the seventies. The book's premise is the succession of the Pacific Northwest from the United States to create a state rooted in environmental sustainability. The book illustrates an extreme utopian view of an environmentalist state. The main character and narrator is a reporter, documenting the progress of newly formed Ecotopia, who slowly falls under its influences. The book address such issues as urban planning, agricultural practices, feminism, politics, aggression, the work week, religion, and more. Callenbach's book is an adventure into a much different future than is often portrayed in science fiction.



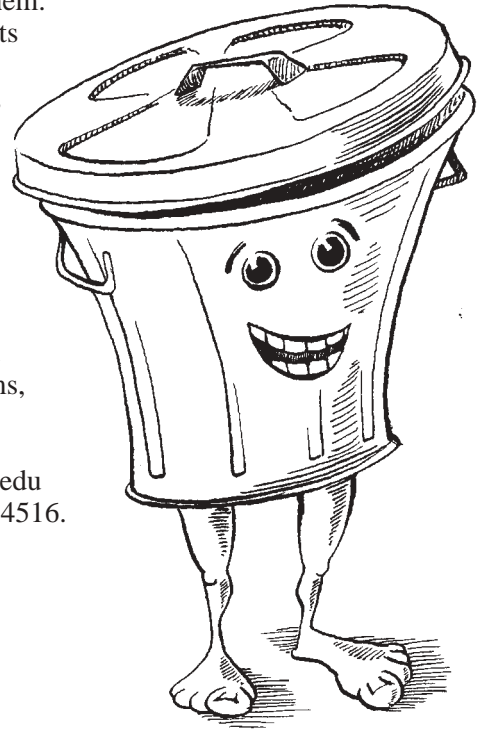
Grants offered to schools for waste-related service-learning projects

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources' Solid Waste Alternatives Program and the Center for Energy and Environmental Education at the University of Northern Iowa are offering grants of up to \$200 to classrooms that will conduct waste-related service-learning projects in their communities.

Priority will be given to applications that promote waste reduction. According to Susan Salterberg, project manager at the CEEE, recycling has received an overwhelming amount of attention in Iowa and across the nation, but "reduction" and "reuse" have taken a back seat. *Reduction* - preventing the generation of waste in the first place - and *reuse* - using materials again in their original state - are two strategies the Iowa State Legislature said are Iowa's highest priorities for waste management. This mini-grant program will help students, teachers, and their communities learn more about these waste management practices.

"We're excited about this project," says Valerie Drew, coordinator of the DNR's Solid Waste Alternatives Program, which funded the initiative. "It's different than other education projects that we've funded in that it takes concepts one step further by showing students the impacts of their actions. Because of that, I think the take-home message will be greater. Students will be experiencing things instead of just reading about them."

Eight grants were awarded earlier this year, and approximately seven more will be awarded to classrooms this fall. For information and application forms, contact Susan Salterberg at salterberg@uni.edu or call 319-498-4516.



The Nature Center Book



The National Association for Interpretation's (NAI's) InterPress is publishing a second edition of *The Nature Center Book: How to Create and Nurture a Nature Center in Your Community*, by Brian Evans and Carolyn Chipman-Evans. The new edition will include photographs of nature centers submitted by NAI members.

The author's project began in 1996 after surveying 100 nature centers and interviewing many NAI leaders and members.

The new edition will include additional pages of preface, which will outline lessons learned since the first edition, and important new developments in the field. This preface will also include pertinent information about NAI. The appendix will be updated regarding organizations and resources. This revised edition will also expand coverage of financial and organizational issues, and information on government-based nature centers.



2003 IAN/ICEC Conservation and Environmental Education Awards Announced

Pamela Holz, IAN/ICEC Awards Committee

The Iowa Association of Naturalists (IAN) and the Iowa Conservation Education Council (ICEC) are proud to announce this year's recipients of their Conservation and Environmental Education Excellence Awards Program. Seven awards will be presented this year. The winners are as follows:



Ada Hayden

Aldo Leopold Environmental Education Award:

Judy Levings, ISU Extension 4-H Youth Development Specialist. This award commends a lifetime achievement in environmental education (EE) excellence and leadership. During Levings' 23-year career, she has served as the Marshall County naturalist, the 4-H Camping Center Director, Reiman Garden Facility Advisory Board member, and much more. As the current Youth Development Specialist, she trains leaders for youth wilderness trips, plans educator workshops, and develops related curriculum. She has actively served on the Iowa Conservation Education Council, the National 4-H Curriculum Jury, the National Experiential Education Design Team, EPA Regional EE Advisory Committee, Midwest EE Conference, REAP-CEP Board, and chaired the 2000 Governor's Conference in environmental education.

Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award:

Mark Aronson, Scott Community College. This award commends outstanding efforts by an environmental educator. As an ecologist and full-time biology faculty member, Aronson uses hands-on experience, field trips, and non-standard materials with his students. He founded the school's Environmental Club to help improve the environment in and around the college. His impact extends beyond Iowa as he initiated the Corridor Education Project in Montana and offers a "Wilderness Study Group" in the summer to visit wilderness areas.

Chris Holt Youth Environmental Education Award:

Enhanced Hunter Safety Education Course, Clinton County Conservation Board. This award commends an outstanding EE program for or by youth. This unique course at the Waspi River Environmental Education Center is now in its 3rd year. Youth ages 11-16 become certified in Hunter Safety through the teachings of area experts. The certification class is extended to include other important relevant topics such as first aid, gun care, safety, and map and compass.

Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award:

Erwin E. Klaas, ISU, US Geological Survey, retired. This award commends outstanding efforts to educate about preservation, land management, or natural resource conservation. Klaas is being honored for "his high integrity and contributions toward improved public understanding

of natural resources conservation." His work has included determining DDT causes eggshell thinning, applying GIS to wildlife management, and serving as leader of the Iowa Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at ISU.

"Ding" Darling Environmental Education Award:

Blue Heron Eco Cruises, Clinton County Conservation Board. This award commends an outstanding EE program that educates the general public. This new program uses a 26-foot pontoon boat to educate students and the general public about the Mississippi River, from industrial uses to recreational uses to native wildlife. Last year, roughly 3,000 participants attended the 150 cruises with varying themes including sunset and bald eagle.

Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (pop. >35,000):

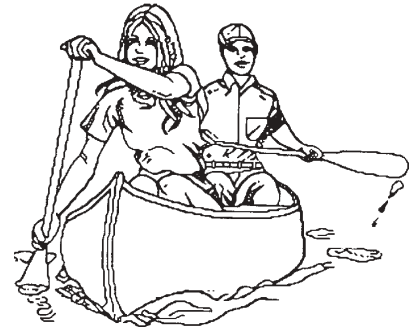
Polk County Conservation Board. This award commends excellence in a county conservation board's EE program of counties with a population of over 35,000. The goal of this 30-year old program is "to teach the public how to have fun while they develop an appreciation and desire to protect natural resources." To obtain this worthy goal, Polk County uses TV vignettes and the ICN network to reach new audiences as well as develops partnerships with related organizations.

Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (pop. <35,000):

Dickinson County Conservation Board. This award commends excellence in a county conservation board's EE program of counties with a population of less than 35,000. Dickinson County offers a wide range of programs from ecology to physics. They promote county and city recycling as well as toxic material disposal days. This past year, they also submitted the second highest amount of data for Iowater, a volunteer water quality monitoring program. Their newest project is creating a nature center for the county.



IAN Summer Workshop
An All Natural Summer
at Tobin's Cabin

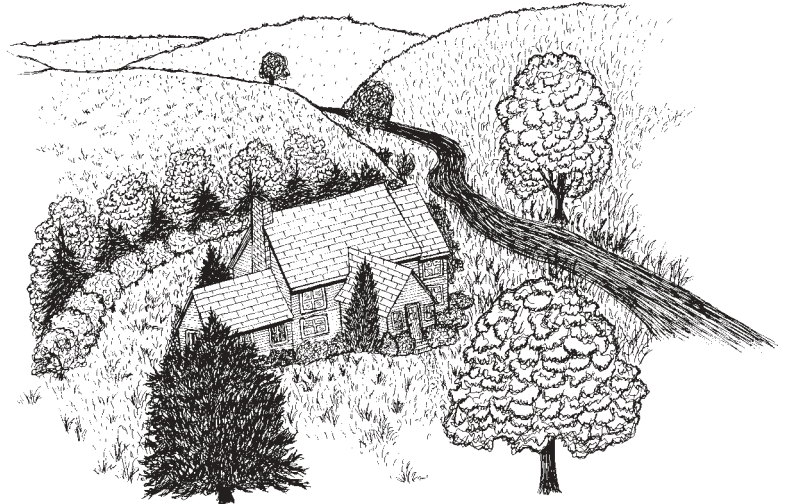


July 12-14, 2004
Benton County Conservation Board
Environmental Education Program
1949 Benton Iowa Road, Blirstown, Iowa 52209
Phone: 319-454-6382 e-mail: bccbnaturalist@netins.net

There are no registration fees or forms to fill out. Pay for meals during the workshop (projected meal cost is \$26 for five meals). If you plan to attend any or all of the *All Natural Summer*, simply contact Karen Phelps (phone/email shown above). Please call before July 2, 2004.

Monday, July 12

- Noon Arrive, move into cabin
- Cabin has electricity, full kitchen, bath w/shower, air conditioning, beds
 - Participants provide bedding and towels
 - Free of charge for IAN
 - Participants may also choose to tent camp free of charge
- 1:00 p.m. Carpool to Jim and Elli Fink's 40 acre organic farm
- The Fink's farm 40 acres, organically raising cows, pigs, chickens, and crops
- 3:30 p.m. K & K Popcorn
- Gene and Lynn Mealhow produce this internationally famous, hull-less popcorn, right here in Benton County. Its origin dates back to native Americans, and was almost lost forever. Tour this small but mighty, family owned business, and learn what else the Mealhows are doing for the environment.
- 6:00 p.m. Supper back at Tobin's Cabin (spaghetti, salad and garlic bread)
- 7:30 p.m. Campfire Social at Tobin's
- Hear and view the recorded story of Unga Chuck and the legend of Nesswe Neppe as told by the late Judge Tobin.



Continued on page 8...



Tuesday, July 13

- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast at Tobin's
- Cereal, Bagel Bread, Homemade Jams, Coffee, Juice
- 9:00 a.m. Travel to Bruce and Meg Walker Prairie
- The Walker's have created a ten acre native prairie, including a small wetland. Among some of the awesome plants you will see are Queen of the Prairie, Culvers Root, Rough and Smooth Blazing Star, Butterfly Weed, Coneflowers, Michigan Lily, Spiderwort, Prairie Cord Grass, Blue Flag Iris, and many more.
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch at home of Dan and Kim Isbell's
- An organically grown meal prepared outdoors on a solar cooker
 - Solar energy efficient techniques used to generate electricity and provide heat and hot water for their home.
- 1:30 a.m. Canoe the Cedar River
- Depart from Isbell's
 - Learn the history of this great river formally known as the Red Cedar River
 - Birding

- 6:00 a.m. Dinner campfire style along the Cedar River at Wildcat Bluff
- Grilled Ham & Cheese or Cheese over the fire
 - Chips
 - S'Mores
 - Soda

??? Transport canoes and peoples back to Tobins

Wednesday, July 14

- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast at Tobin's
- Cereal, Bagel Bread, Homemade Jams, Coffee, Juice

- 9:00 a.m. Carpool to Frontier Herbs
- Internationally known producers of organic herbs, foods, flours, and spices

- 10:30 a.m. Carpool to Natural Soy Products
- Processors of soy oil
 - Producers of soy-based hand cleaner
 - Producers of SoySeal. Soy-based sealant for decks and patios
 - Producers of soy-based cement and concrete form releases
 - Producers of soy candles

Noon Depart Tobin's Cabin



From the Grapevine



Amy Yoakum, Story CCB naturalist, is the new NAI Region V representative. Contact her with information or questions related to NAI at ayoakum@storycounty.com.



Congratulations to **Shane Vondracek** on his new job in Wisconsin with the Appleton YMCA. Iowa's loss is Wisconsin's gain! **Kelly Sonnichsen** will take on the position as Vice President of IAN. We wish Shane and his family good luck on their move.



Karess Knudton, Clay CCB Naturalist, had a little boy, Liam Dane Knudtson, on April 7. He weighed 8 lb, 4 oz and was 22 inches long. Everyone is doing well.



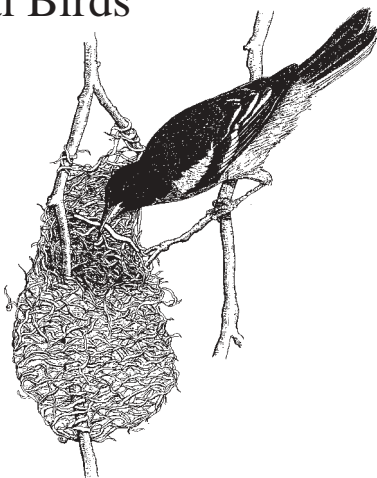
Laura Hamilton, formerly with Warren CCB, and Mike DeCook will be married on May 29, 2004 on the DeCook family farm near Lovilia, IA.



Iowa's Tropical Birds

Carl Bollwinkel,
UNI eii coordinator

Naturalists and teachers have an opportunity to team on the instruction of an Environmental Issues (eii) unit, "Iowa's Tropical Birds." The instructional planning is supported by a REAP grant which defrays the cost of three hours of graduate credit.



Naturalists and teachers may enroll, plan and carry out the instruction as a team. Materials to be used include the "Solve and Crime: Save the Song of Spring" kit which is available from many nature centers and AEAs.

Sub-issues of land use, climate change, pollution etc., which contribute to the declining population of Iowa's Neotropical Migrant birds, will be part of the instruction available. The unit will be presented in West Des Moines on July 21-23 and Oct. 8-9, in Dubuque on November 12-14, 2004 and January 28-29 2005, and in Des Moines, Feb. 2-4 and April 8-9, 2005.

Instructors will include a team of eii teacher/leaders; the eii team of Bollwinkel, Bonnett, and Cochran (UNI), E. Taylor (ISU), D. Osterberg (U of I); and other consultants. More detailed information and pre-registration is available from www.uni.edu/ceee/eii and brochures from bollwinkel@uni.edu or UNI Continuing Education, 800-648-3864.

IOWATER 2004 Level I Workshop Dates

Date	Location	Contact
April 16-17	Johnston	Steven Witmer (515) 727-7765 switmer@ci.johnston.ia.us
This workshop will be followed by a 4-hour Bacteria Monitoring workshop (April 17, 2-6 p.m.).		
April 23-24	Jefferson Co.	Jack Eastman (641)469-5760 jacktoni@kdsi.net
April 30- May1	Ames	Jerry Keys (515)232-2516 jkeys@storycounty.com
This workshop will be followed by the 4-hour Benthic Macroinvertebrate Indexing workshop (May 1, 2-6 p.m.).		
May 7-8	Quad Cities	Carol Border (563)326-6150 cjb@ci.davenport.ia.us
June 4-5	Worth County	Jeremy Johannsen (641) 584-2211 Jeremy.Johannsen@ia.usda.gov
June 11-12	Wright County	Charlie Bray (515) 532-3185 cbray@co.wright.ia.us
July 9-10	Burlington	Kim Perlstein (319)753-5808 starcave@interl.net
July 16-17	Lewis	Andria Cossolotto (712) 243-6665 acossolotto@casscoia.us
July 30-31	Oxford	Brad Freidhof (319) 645-2315 conservation@co.johnson.ia.us
August 12-13	Ida County	Steve Hummel (712)364-3300 mshummel@netins.net



2004 Upcoming Educator Workshops

Wilderness Adventures

Contact: Marsha Morgan
515-294-9722
mmorgan@iastate.edu

The following Wilderness Adventures are being sponsored by ISU 4-H Extension.

Youth Backpack Trek Rocky Mountains

July 17-24 \$340.00

Trip Leaders: Craig Meyers, Diane McKee and Marsha Morgan.

Youth Wilderness Canoe Trek Boundary Waters Canoe Area

Trip One: June 19-26 \$320.00

Trip Two: July 17-24 \$320.00

Trip One Leaders: Katie Dalton and Dan Cohen.

Trip Two Leaders: Gail Barels
Joel Van Roekel

Adult Wilderness Canoe Trek Boundary Waters Canoe Area

July 10-17 \$420.00

Trip leader: Jim Pease

Two hours of ISU graduate credit available for additional cost.

Adult Wilderness Horse Packing Trek in Colorado

July 10-17 \$680.00

Trip leader: Judy Levings

Fall IAN Workshop

The Fall IAN Workshop will be held a couple weeks earlier than normal this year to avoid conflicts with NAI. The Fall IAN Workshop will be held **November 3-5, 2004** in Hardin County. Look for more details as the date gets closer, but mark your calendars so you don't forget the earlier than normal dates!

Exhibits and Collections

Contact: Marilyn Setzler
712-792-1582

The Iowa Museum Association Exhibits and Collections Standing Professional Committee Workshop will be held **June 7** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Carroll County Historical Museum in Carroll, IA. Topics will include: Collections Management and Inventory Techniques; Exhibit Planning and Techniques; and Tour Preparation for Staff and Visitors. A group lunch will be held at the Carrollton Inn. To register, send a \$15.00 check made out to the Iowa Museum Association and mail before May 31, to: Marilyn Setzler, 724 E. 22nd St., Carroll, IA 51401.

Advanced WILD Aquatic Water Quality: Issues and Actions

Contact: Miriam Patton
Phone: 712/837-4866
Email: paccb@ruthventel.com

Targeted for 4th - 12th grade educators, this workshop provides the opportunity to explore local lakes and marshes first-hand by canoe; gain experience with water quality testing kits and benthic study equipment; and become familiar with a variety of water quality resources. Educators will return to the classroom with activities they can incorporate into lessons. The workshop will be held **June 29-30**, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Lost Island Prairie Wetland Nature Center near Ruthven, Iowa. Registration is limited to 12 participants; \$50 stipend available towards credit hours

AWLS I and II

Contact: A Jay Winter
(641) 747-8383
ajay.winter@dnr.state.ia.us

The Iowa American Wilderness Leadership School (AWLS) is designed to meet the needs of educators seeking an outdoor experience and who want to improve their outdoor skills. If you are inexperienced in the outdoors, but always wanted to learn; or if you are already at a higher level of outdoor skill, and you want to learn more, AWLS will be of great benefit to you. The five day courses are packed with diverse, outdoor, hands-on activities that are both fun and educational. The food, lodging, equipment, and instruction are all included in the registration fee. **AWLS I** will be held **June 28 - July 2** and **AWLS II** will be held **July 19 - 23**. Graduate credit is available. Both courses are held at the Springbrook Conservation Education Center.

Prairie Conference

Contact: www.napc2004.org

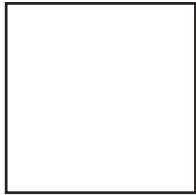
The 19th North American Prairie Conference will be held in Madison, WI, **August 8-12**. The Conference is geared toward a wide audience, from professional managers and academics, to the curious and enthusiastic. See the web site for details.

Energy Expo 2004

Contact: I-Renew
irenew@irenew.org
www.irenew.org

Actor and environmentalist Ed Begley Jr. will be a featured guest speaker at the Iowa Renewable Energy Association's Energy Expo **September 11-12**. The Expo features workshops and presentations related to energy efficiency and alternative fuels.





Iowa Association of Naturalists
2473 - 160th Road
Guthrie Center, IA 50115

Naturalists - planting the seed of environmental stewardship by communicating the meanings and relationships in natural, cultural, and historical resources.



The Web
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Articles submitted for the fall newsletter must be postmarked no later than August 15, 2004. Articles and newsletter correspondence should be sent to the address shown above. Many of the illustrations found in *The Web* are printed courtesy of Mark Muller and Scott Patton.

Printed with soy ink

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