

# BOARD MEMBER

Iowa's County Conservation System Magazine

## Generation-Spanning Bridges



- \* Clayton County's Motor Mill Bridge
- \* Linn County's Mary Lundby Memorial Bridge
- \* Honey Creek Conference Highlights
- \* Hamilton County Cabin Dedication
- \* 2012 & 2013 IACCB Conferences (Fall & Spring)
- \* Update on the "Rally for Iowa's Outdoor Legacy"

Bur Oak  
*Quercus macrocarpa*

The Bur Oak tree was the favorite of Mary Lundby.

Wickiup Hill  
Learning Center  
LINN COUNTY CORPORATION



## From The President....



**Darrell Frerichs, Clay CCB  
President, IACCB**

**Welcome** to the **Winter 2013** edition of the Iowa Board Member Magazine from Iowa's County Conservation System! We hope that each of you had a grand holiday season, and are looking forward to an exciting new year! It has been a busy several months since our last production, and 2013 looks to be even more eventful! We can never do justice to all that is happening across Iowa, so we just bring you the snippets and best practices that have crossed our path since the last time we land in your "inbox"!

Special thanks this edition to **R.J. Thomas Mfg., Inc.** of Cherokee, IA for supporting our association as a Preferred Vendor, as well as for their advertising in the Board Member. We are shifting our Preferred Vendor program to operate on a calendar year – to better match the financial calendars of our partnership businesses and stakeholders. Learn more about this program later on in this edition.

The primary goals of the Board Member are to inform, share and educate county conservation board members, staff and partners – to facilitate that essential networking so vital to our diverse industry. We invite your articles, ideas, successes and photos to share across our system – as we want to celebrate each and every aspect that has brought us to where we are

today!

### The Editor

### 2012-2013 IACCB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- Member **Mike Brandrup**, Board Member, Hamilton CCB

Hi, I'm Darrell Frerichs. As the incoming President for the IACCB Board of Directors, perhaps a little bit about myself is in order. I have been on the Clay County Conservation Board for 21 years and live on Lost Island Lake near Ruthven with my wife, Judy.

I am on the "Water Quality Team" for Lost Island Lake, and along with help from the D.N.R. and commercial fishermen we have reduced the rough fish population from over 1,000,000 lbs. to under 80,000 lbs. in a short four years – a real success story!

After attending the IACCB Fall Conference at Honey Creek last fall – the experience proved to be quite an eye opener for me. I now realize how fortunate we are in NW Iowa for the resources that we have.

The 2013 conference will be held in Okoboji, IA – hosted by the Clay, Dickinson, O'Brien and Palo Alto county conservation boards. This event is absolutely the very best opportunity for you to learn, network and share your local challenges and experiences with your county conservation peers from across the state. I invite you to explore the Iowa Great Lakes region with us in 2013! Looking forward to seeing you all here!

**Darrell**



Visit the **IACCB Conference Section** for updates on past & future conferences.



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Association of County Conservation Boards.

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# THE TALES OF TWO BRIDGES

*An anchor to the past in Clayton County, bridging to the future in Linn County.....*

## Mary A. Lundby Memorial Bridge, Pinicon Ridge Park – Linn County

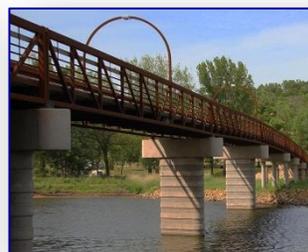


**CENTRAL CITY, IA** – The nearly \$1.5 million project was completed on time and dedicated on a sunny August 24<sup>th</sup> morning. This vision from the ‘60s – to connect the sprawling campground complex with a multitude of “day use” features of the park finally became a reality. The connecting trails to the bridge also reach out to incorporate the loop trail system into nearby Central City – accomplishing yet another long-term regional vision.

Since the first campsites were constructed in 1966, campers either had to boat across the river, or drive upwards of 3.5 miles to reach the watercraft concession, observation tower, hiking trails, lodges, shelters and many other outdoor recreation opportunities in the park. The wide tread path of the new bridge also accommodates the mowing and other maintenance equipment which also faced the same access challenge to the campgrounds.

The project was launched with a \$500,000 state appropriation in honor of Senator Lundby’s dedication to Iowa’s natural resources and outdoor recreation. Strong support from the Linn County Board of Supervisors coupled with local options sales tax dollars, REAP funds and a grant from the Greater Cedar Rapids Foundation helped spur the project to the finish line.

Governor Brandstad was among the many local dignitaries, family members and supporters who were on hand in August to dedicate this beautiful new county conservation destination facility. ***Kudos once again to everyone involved!***



# Historic Motor Mill Bridge – Motor, Clayton County



*Christmas 1895?*



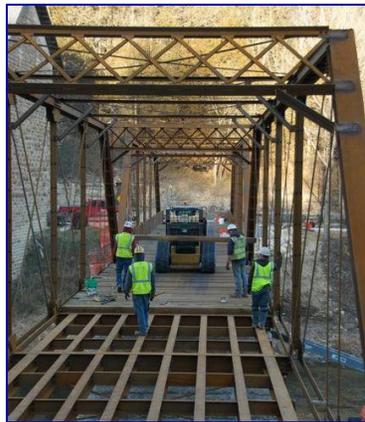
*Nope – it's 2012!*

**Elkader, IA** – After more than 21 years, a bridge again crosses the Turkey River at Motor Mill. Crews from Minnowa Construction used large cranes to lift the two spans of the steel bridge into place on Tuesday, November 20. The structure is designed to closely resemble the historic, 1895 bridge that was destroyed by the floods of 1991 and 2008.

The new spans sit atop a center pier and abutments, which were refurbished and raised about four feet to avoid future flooding. A new wooden plank deck, guardrails, and other finishing touches were added after the steel was in place. Historic low water levels on the Turkey River in NE Iowa tremendously increased the expediency of the project to replace the two-span steel bridge this fall.

The [Motor Mill Foundation](#) and the [Clayton County Conservation Board](#), which manages the Motor Mill Historic Site, held a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the bridge on Saturday, Dec. 8. *(A formal dedication of the site will be held in the Spring of 2013)*

The [Motor Mill Foundation](#) is continuing a fund drive to pay for the \$1 million bridge project. The Foundation needs to raise about \$90,000 to supplement a \$432,000 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), \$463,000 from Iowa's Resources Enhancement and Protection program (REAP), \$20,000 from Upper Mississippi Gaming, \$33,000 from Iowa Great Places, and \$11,000 from Clayton County Secondary Roads. **CONGRATS!!!**



2008 flooding

# Outdoor Seating

Picnic Tables and Benches ...for any location



From sophisticated landscapes, to public parks and trails, to malls and patios,



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# RESPONSE BOAT



by John Klein, Jones CCB Ranger  
ranger@co.jones.ia.us

**Center Junction, IA – The Response Boat** project started approx. three years ago with hope for Jones County to become more proactive instead of reactive. Jones County currently has five paddler livery operations and thousands of river users (both private and renter's) each year. With no way to quickly respond to an emergency this project was started. Jones County first responders have been called out to lost children and adults, overturned vessels, broken necks, backs and legs, vessel's caught in snags and strainers, concussion's, intoxicated individual's, storm events, fight's and trespassing. The Sheriff's Office currently has a recovery boat. This boat is a platform designed to do recovery work not rescues or quickly respond especially in shallow water. It is a heavy boat with a jet engine designed to do dragging operations and put divers in the water or to work near our low head dams. With the shallow water conditions that exist locally, it was not an efficient means to reach people in an emergency. The new boat is an 18 foot long x 52 inch wide ALWELD shallow water mud boat with a 35hp shallow drive mud motor. The difference between a typical outboard or jet motor and a mud motor is the two former types are not designed to operate in shallow water. A mud motor is designed to operate in the sandy, muddy bottoms of our local rivers without causing damage. The boat is equipped with life jackets, shallow and swift water rescue gear (i.e. helmets, ropes, harnesses), emergency radio, first aid equipment, lighting, etc. The boat was purchased from Shallow Water Marine in Palo, Iowa who specializes in these type of water craft. The Response Boat will be utilized for rescue work during shallow and swift water emergencies, patrolling, flood events occurring throughout Jones County, bridge inspections and search and rescue (SAR) events. *More.....*

The total purchase price for the boat, motor and trailer was \$20,252.58. This was paid for with \$14,862.50 in donations from local individuals and businesses and an equal split between [Jones County Conservation](#) and Jones County Sheriff's Office. There was an additional approx. \$4,600 in equipping the boat (rescue gear, communications, lighting, PFD's, etc.)

## WICKIUP HILL



*New exhibit pieces await installation at Wickiup Hill.*

**Toddville, IA –** After nearly 33 years at the present location, [Linn County Conservation](#) will be getting a new mailing address later this month. With the completion of an addition to the **Wickiup Hill Outdoor Learning Center**, Linn CCB will move their administrative offices to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the new structure.

The addition nearly doubles the size of the original 10,000 sq. ft. center which opened in 2002. There will also be new classroom and meeting space, many new exhibits, and a “tornado-safe” area that will shelter people at the facility during severe weather events.

The expanded exhibit space will have a focus on the Cedar River, water quality, floodplain management and the impacts people have on Iowa's river systems. The new exhibits will include hands on activities, such as games and use of multi-media.

Look forward to a feature article in the next edition of the [Board Member](#) on Linn County's newest jewel.



# NATIVE IOWA OAK CABIN CONSTRUCTED IN HAMILTON COUNTY



*Hamilton CCB Director, Brian Lammers comments during open house ceremonies at the new Legacy Cabin*

## *Hamilton CCB Ribbon Cutting – October 4, 2012*

**Webster City, IA** – Local elected officials, community leaders, economic development folks, volunteers and other stakeholders joined the [Hamilton County Conservation Board](#) & staff on a brisk early October morning to celebrate the grand opening of the LEGACY CABIN in Briggs Woods county park. A combination of contracted labor, donated time, and many hours by the HCCB staff brought this project to a successful conclusion just in time for fall hunting season reservations! The cabin will sleep 12-15 people, and is the largest of the five cabins now in their system

Hamilton County hopes to install several more cabins in the years to come as they continue their investment in the economic future of the county. The existing Hamilton CCB system has a \$1.92 million impact on the local economy!

## **From the [Hamilton County Conservation Website](#)**

“Tucked away under the lush timber canopy of Briggs Woods Park sets the newly constructed two-story “Legacy Cabin”. This charming cabin sleeps up to 15 persons with two full bedrooms, two 3/4 baths, a sleeping loft, full kitchen, living room, heat and air conditioning, television, and is ADA compliant. The Legacy Cabin also features a large covered deck overlooking picturesque Briggs Woods Lake. A fire ring and grill sit adjacent to the cabin enhancing the private cabin picnic area. Throughout Briggs Woods Park you will find numerous wooded hiking trails, our swimming beach, fantastic lake and river fishing and an entertaining playground. Winding through Briggs Woods Park and along the scenic Boone River you will find the 5.7 mile paved trail that connects the Park with Webster City. Gracing the entrance to the park you will find Briggs Woods 18-hole public golf course. Adding to the considerable recreation opportunities, Briggs Woods Golf Course doubles as our cross country ski course in the off season.”



## *Cabin tours by Hamilton CCB Board & Staff*

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information, OR to reserve this cabin through [MyCountyParks.com](#).



The primary structure of this cabin was created from native Iowa white oak logs obtained through the [Prairie Rivers of Iowa Log Products](#) program. Hamilton county is one of several CCBs that have partnered with the Prairie Rivers RC&D to install these cabins. For additional information, click on the links above.



### Change in the Offing in 2013 for MCP.com

If we don't at least keep pace with "the curve" – the steam roller that is chasing us will catch up! To keep our internet presence "fresh", we have signed the contracts for some of the first major construction associated with the MyCountyPark.com website since the original portions were bolted together in 2008/9. The two most important (and noticeable) pieces will be the **Contact Management System**, and the statewide **IACCB Intranet & Networking portal!** The latter will essentially be a whole new digital means for us all to communicate, share and move forward together. BOTH of these pieces will be password-protected administrative operations – accessible only to the staff and board members of IACCB membership counties. These upgrades will also signal our switch over to an all new email system, newsletter and E-news distribution system, and the closure of the IACCB.com website that has served us well since 2008.

There will also be several minor changes incorporated with updated technologies and enhanced user features for both customers and administrators for the site. We anticipate construction to get underway in the next couple of weeks, and the new pieces to be rolled out for us later this spring following a regimen of testing.

The CMS (*Contact Management System*) will also produce the PERSONNEL DIRECTORY in a "live version" - up-to-date and current all the time. When you have a new conservation board member, change in database info. (*phone, email address, etc.*) for staff or board member – then YOU can go in and update it immediately. YOU can also build your own email database to integrate with the upgraded E-Blast system for emails, newsletters, etc. Additionally, YOU will have access to any number of the 25,000+ registered users of MCP.com that have indicated an interest in your county conservation board. This will also be a great opportunity for you to migrate other email & contact databases over to MCP.com – putting all the resources of this great new feature to work for you! Stay tuned..... 😊

I got into **LinkedIn** about 5 years ago – spurred to do so after I was thoroughly chastised by a 22-year-old college graduate who was flabbergasted that county conservation in Iowa had "no presence" on LinkedIn. Since that time, I have made some 175+ professional connections, and at least it provides another portal to our county conservation system. **LinkedIn** lists the following main points about who/what they are:

- Operate the world's largest professional network on the Internet in over 200 countries and territories.
- **LinkedIn's** mission is to connect the world's professionals to make them more productive and successful.

Yes, when you add in the website time, the Facebook time, the Twitter time and the email time – it can get pretty all – consuming. Everyone has their own personal preferences for "being connected", and there are plenty of them out there! For those of you already "on" **LinkedIn**, look me up....if not – we'll see you in an email or catch you on Facebook. I'm not quite a tweeter.....yet! 😊



<http://mycountyparks.weebly.com>

Visit our "satellite" website location for all the current and previous IACCB Newsletters and the Board Member. Our March 9<sup>th</sup> **Spring Workshop** information will be posted there soon, as will all the information for our **2013 Annual Fall Conference** in Okoboji on September 26-28! (Link is available to this site via the IACCB tab at the bottom of any page on **mycountyparks.com**





## Iowa State Association of Counties

*(Excerpt from the November 2012 Iowa County Capitol Comments*

By: Linda Hinton, ISAC Government Relations Manager

### 2013 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The LPC's recommended platform includes 20 legislative objectives, although half of the objectives are in multi-part objectives, to the ISAC Board of Directors. Items were combined into one objective when they covered the same subject or fit together thematically. Following are the three top priorities recommended by the Legislative Policy committee:

**Property Tax Reform** - This priority continues as a major issue for ISAC in light of the property tax proposals that have been introduced over the past two sessions. Several objectives from prior years are included in this overall statement. These include capturing the value of agricultural buildings, developing standard guidelines for the classification of agricultural property, uncoupling agricultural and residential properties, and TIF reform. In addition, the LPC added a defensive statement regarding the exemption of the supplemental levy from any limitation that might be proposed.

**Mental Health Funding** - Last year's priority regarding redesign has been deleted since the regional concept is being implemented, but the underlying need for adequate funding for the regions remains. The LPC amended this objective to emphasize the need for the legislature to act early in the session to appropriate funding for FY 2014, since county budgets will be well under way in January. A proposal to align the hiring and payment of the judicial mental health advocate with either the state or the regions is included in this objective as well.

**Road Funding** - ISAC will continue to work with a coalition to secure additional funding for Iowa's roads. We will continue to advocate for an increase in the motor fuel tax as well as other options to increase funding to the TIME-21 fund up to the \$225 million cap with excess revenues distributed through the Road Use Tax Fund.

**Other objectives proposed** by the LPC include the following:

**Agricultural Exemption from Zoning, Building Codes** - The agricultural exemption from zoning and building codes currently includes farm houses. The objective seeks to eliminate that exemption so that the public health and safety codes would apply to all homes whether in town or on a farm.

**Annexation and De-annexation** - This objective combines two proposals; one to have a county say when cities are annexing property, and one for the county to have a say when a city is proposing a severance.

**Bottle Bill Expansion** - Iowa's bottle bill was passed in 1979 and ISAC has proposed expansion many times. Many beverage containers, most notably water bottles, are not covered by the law. The costs for litter removal to counties and other road jurisdictions are considerable and the bottle bill has proven to be a deterrent to littering.

**Elections** - There are three election objectives, two of which relate to absentee voting. The **first** proposal is to eliminate the post mark requirement on absentee ballots and change the standard for a timely ballot to all ballots received before the polls close on Election Day. This would eliminate a problem with unreadable or nonexistent post marks. **Second** is a proposal to end absentee voting at the auditor's office at 12:00 pm noon on the Monday before Election Day. **Third** is to make the registration deadline for all elections 11 days prior to the election. This makes things consistent but also helps curtail the costs of being open one Saturday.

**Posting Notices** - ISAC has been advocating for options to publishing in the newspaper for several years. This objective incorporates a proposal from the treasurers affiliate to allow a reference to where the parcel descriptions for the annual tax sale can be found in order to cut publishing costs.

**REAP Funding** - The Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP) invests in Iowa's natural and cultural resources and is authorized to receive \$20 million per year, but the legislature has been appropriating significantly less. This proposal asks for full funding.

**User Fees** - This objective combines three proposals for increased fees. The treasurer affiliate proposed an increase in the drivers' license fees to assist in funding the counties' drivers' license services. The recorders affiliate proposed an increase in the filing fee from \$1 to \$2 to cover redacting and other costs for electronic recording of documents. The environmental health affiliate proposed an increase in the license fees for food establishments to help defray the costs of inspection.



### 285 IN ONE HUNTER EDUCATION CLASS??

Every fall just before deer season there are numerous requests for holding hunting education classes. This year's "last chance" hunting ed class was at North Mahaska High School. There were 285 students from 46 different counties. 281 students passed the class with an average test score of 94%. Allen Crouse, Recreational Safety Officer, believes this is the largest hunter ed. class ever held. All of the classes are taught by volunteer instructors so a special thanks goes to Dave Sedivec and the 13 volunteer instructors from Mahaska County. *(A total of four from the Mahaska CCB ☺)* **KUDOS to the MCCB** and their support of this essential program! 9



*“County Conservation Boards are extraordinary – an extraordinary gift you have! I will speak of you often.”*

Shane Mahoney, Director of Conservation Force

*Rally for Iowa’s Outdoor Legacy Conference - September 28-29, 2012*

“There are countries, provinces and political subdivisions around the planet that are seeking exactly what you have here in Iowa! Volunteers serving at the local level and doing the work that we all wish we could do – establishing policy and leading the way in conservation.” These words and many more from **Shane Mahoney** – *Executive Director of Sustainable Development and Strategic Science, Department of Environment and Conservation, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, St. John’s, NF.* “Wildlife no longer exists by accident, it exists by our effort.” – This was the theme of Mahoney’s keynote address to the conference hosted by the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, Pheasants Forever and Iowa’s Water and Land Legacy. (IACCB also provided a sponsorship for the conference)

Mahoney’s insightful observations resonated with all the participants that were fortunate to be in attendance. He also provided a break-out session “International Conservation: Lessons for Iowa”. In addition to Mahoney, conference attendees were treated to presentations from Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack; Prof. Dan Otto, ISU; and special guest banquet speaker, Dave Murphy – on “Lessons from Missouri – Dedicated Conservation Funding & Related Success Stories.” Iowa’s County Conservation System had representatives in attendance from IACCB, Story, Bremer, Clayton, Hancock and Clinton county conservation boards.

**Dan Otto**, Professor, Department of Economics at Iowa State University presented a Policy Address on the “Economic Value Of Outdoor Recreation Activities in Iowa”. This was an update of the 2007 study from which we have been utilizing many of the formulas and statistics. (See updated information on the economic impact of Iowa’s County Conservation System elsewhere in this edition) This ISU study provided statistical background information to support investment of additional capital to provide more highly valued recreation activities, increased economic activity, and improved quality of life for residents. (This study is now available: <http://mycountyparks.weebly.com/index.html>)



**Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack**, gave an unanticipated rousing luncheon presentation to the conference. The information he provided was pre-2012 general election and was injected with many thoughts on what it would take to get Washington moving again – especially since congress has been slow to move on the “farm bill” or agricultural legislation. He was particularly animated for this opportunity, and very well-received by the audience. Vilsack was much appreciative of his opportunity to address the conference and wished the participants well with their effort to improve Iowa’s water quality & outdoor recreation.

It was unfortunate timing that this conference followed directly after our statewide IACCB conference at Honey Creek as it was just an excellent opportunity for everyone to hear some great presentations. We hope to see Shane Mahoney back to an IACCB conference sometime soon, and believe that everyone who was able to attend found the experience rewarding. Our THANKS! to Iowa Pheasants Forever and the INHF for providing this great opportunity!



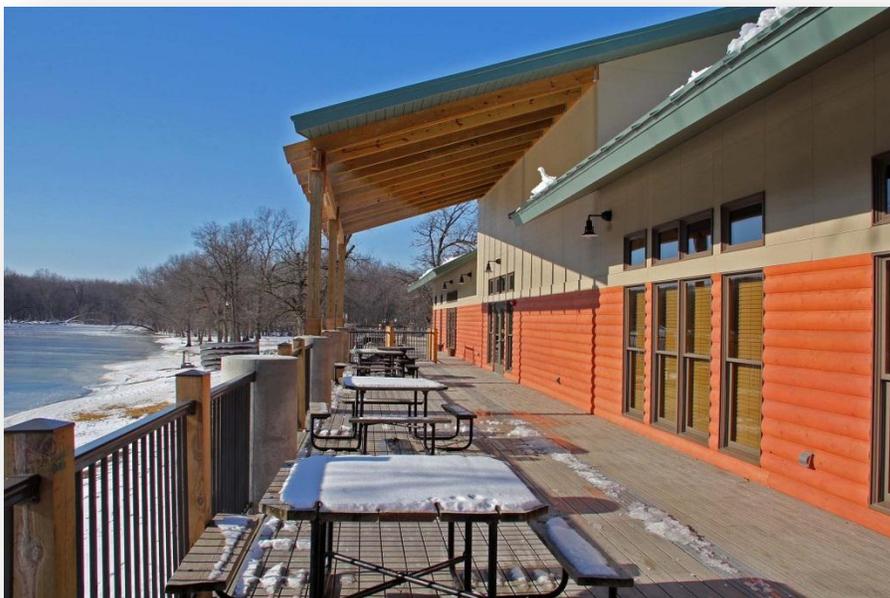
Iowa  
Natural Heritage  
Foundation



*Nestled in its own bayou  
along the Big Muddy....  
Clinton County has a new  
gem of a destination!*



The \$2.4 million **Clinton CCB Eco Tourism Center** opened this past summer and has commenced serving its purpose well! The camp store and café provide great service to campers and visitors; the central “nature center” portion is progressing nicely; and the “community room” is spacious & welcoming! Not to mention – this is just a great staging and launch facility for the **Blue Heron Eco Cruise** ship line! ☺ (Rock Creek Marina & Campground)





At the far end of the café area is the 8,000 gal. fish tank inhabited with native Mississippi River species. *(Staff clean the tank in scuba gear...tough duty, eh?)*



The camp store/café also features replicas of 35 of Iowa's state record "lunker" fish floating above your heads!



The spacious and well-appointed meeting and special function space has its own separate kitchen and opens both on to the sprawling deck and into the soon to be completed exhibit area. *Well done, Clinton CCB!*

Please note the last two pages of this edition, and the listing of the members from our previous "Sustaining Membership Program". This listing brings to a close that IACCB partnership program that has been in operation for the past 30 years. The next issues of the *Board Member*, *Personnel Directory* and some newsletters will feature our new collection of Preferred Vendors – those businesses that have engaged with this new program since July 2012.

This "new" program is still in the morphing stage as we modify the advertising opportunity structure to fit our new digital network mode(s) and website structure.



Additional information is available by emailing an inquiry to: [IACCB@mycountyparks.com](mailto:IACCB@mycountyparks.com) or visiting this link: <http://mycountyparks.weebly.com/preferred-vendor.html> Members of the previous program should be receiving an invitation to participate in this new program in the near future via standard USPS mail service.

**CAMPING "WORDS"**

In 2012, over 38,000 online interviews about camping and camping habits were conducted by the consortium of; The Outdoor Foundation, The Coleman Company, and Kampgrounds of America (KOA). Amongst numerous other statistics, the 64-page report generated a listing of words that were MOST and LEAST associated with camping activity as follows:

**MOST ASSOCIATED**

**LEAST ASSOCIATED**

- OUTDOORS
- CAMPFIRE
- TENT
- FUN
- WILDERNESS
- ADVENTURE
- ESCAPE
- PEACE
- HAPPINESS
- FRIENDS

- PUBLIC
- TEENAGERS
- PLAYGROUND
- INTENSE
- ELECTRICITY
- DISCOMFORT
- DIFFICULT
- CLOSE-TO-HOME
- SWIMMING POOL
- EXPENSIVE

# DISTRICT MEETINGS – A MUST!



*64 District III Employees pack into the Dickinson Co. Nature Center*

***You miss a meeting, you miss a bunch!*** Depending on the District, meetings may be quarterly, every-other-month, or only three times a year.....for the most part, however – *why would you not be there?!*

“The Districts” are a product of the early 1960s as Iowa’s county conservation system was coming alive – a means of organizing the fledgling CCBs together to allow for regional support and networking. Sound familiar? These “sub-divisions” and gatherings are still, without question – the grassroots basis of our statewide system. For employees, they are the first exposure to a broader county conservation board system outside of their own county. The districts further fuel our statewide structure through IACCB and IACCBE, as well as providing connections to other affiliates.



*Rich Erke (Decatur) learns more about the Emerald Ash Borer and other pest threats from a regional entomologist at a District IV meeting.*

Then there’s the education. Some of the best training and local “hands-on” knowledge is available through the district meeting system. Regional specialists and professionals usually provide the educational sessions – coupled with doses of “What’s Happening in this CCB”, and updates from the various regional DNR representatives. It’s a given – you come away from every district meeting with an expanded knowledge base – broader than when you walked in!



*District II attendees experience some of the local CCB programming at summer district meeting in Worth County.*

District meetings also provide us the opportunity to sample the uniqueness of our system, and to share those “best practices” concepts and programs. Whether it is a facility, program or natural feature – “getting out of the county” often to experience that of other CCBs is just a part of becoming better at what we do.



Did we mention the food? For bargain-basement pricing, the local specialty vittles are incredible. We all know that one of the memorable parts of any meeting is what gets served up for lunch! Host CCBs generally have a desire to impress their peers, so here come the local chefs/caterers and the feed is on! (*Morning donuts are good too!* 😊)



Not to forget the **NETWORKING!** Perhaps **the #1 reason** we have so many meetings – but the Districts do it the best! Start locally, broaden regionally and invest statewide – you cannot help but to “grow” your staff and better your operations by taking advantage of these great opportunities – ***see you there!***

# 2013 IACCB CONFERENCES!



**March 9<sup>th</sup> – Reiman Gardens, Ames**  
*hosted by IACCB*

Returning in 2013 once again to the warm and inviting environs of Reiman Gardens in the ISU campus in Ames. We are pulling together the final agenda details with representatives from Iowa Tourism, Iowa State University and the County Board of Supervisors group for a hearty day of **“Internal Marketing/Success in Working with Your Board of Supervisors”**. As budgets tighten, populations shrink, and “conservation” frequently being the target for budget freezes/cuts we collectively need to do a better job of self-promotion and ensuring that our program is “top of mind” and a priority with our local elected leadership!



Registration materials with an updated agenda should be available in late-January.....keep an eye on the IACCB periodic newsletter for additional information. Registration costs will be extremely low – and will include a great luncheon served up by the Hickory Park Restaurant in Ames.

The annual IACCB spring and fall conferences are put together each year for the benefit of both board members and staff – providing not only timely and pertinent education, but excellent platforms for you to network with your peers across Iowa. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of these and other cost-effective benefits of your Association membership! *If not now, when?*



**Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>–28<sup>th</sup> – Arrowood Resort, Okoboji**  
*hosted by Clay, Dickinson, O'Brien & Palo Alto CCBs & IACCB*

**WATER ODESSEY**  
**“WANDERING THROUGH TIME”**

**Time for a group mosey to Iowa’s Great Lakes!**

The **2013 Conference Planning Committee** has been working overtime to provide us with on tremendous experience in NW Iowa. With conference amenities such as a **Queen II boat tour** of the lake, to an encore edition of the **IACCB Fish Fry** – time to be sure that your calendars are marked for this important IACCB annual event!

### LODGING RESERVATIONS

can be made at any time  
 by contacting the  
[Arrowood Resort & Conference Center](#) at  
**(800) 727-4561**  
 and mentioning the county  
 conservation room block.



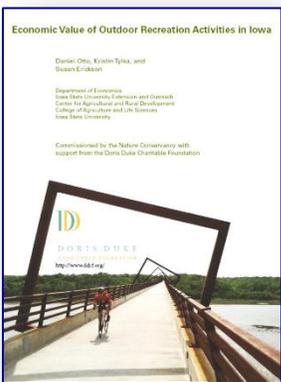
In addition to the great tours being planned – some of the tentative agenda topics include: Geological Landscapes; Locally Grown Foods; Spirit Lake Massacre; Shallow Water Management; Early Prairie Research; Historical Waterfowl Hunting, and much more! Look forward to more information on the conference to be available online soon, and to receiving your registration packets in May.



# Looking Back to 2012 and Honey Creek...

## The 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual IACCB Fall Conference





# Economic Value of Outdoor Recreation Activities in Iowa

Dan Otto, Kristin Tylka, and Susan Erickson – Iowa State University

*(Commissioned by the Nature Conservancy with support from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation)*

Updated study released in late September 2012 yields new economic impact numbers for county conservation boards. Coupled with the **2012 CCB Asset Inventory & Strategic Planning Survey** – *an accurate picture emerges about Iowa’s County Conservation System!*

- **99 counties – 1,832 areas – 193,624 acres**
- **24 million visitors spending \$608.9 million each year**

**Iowa’s 99-County Conservation Boards** collectively manage over **\$1.25B** in **physical assets** : 64 Nature/Welcome Centers (*11 more in the pipeline*); 10,500 campsites; 1,536 miles of trails; 877 restrooms & showers; 753 lodges/shelters; 172 cabins; 415 dam structures; 675 pedestrian bridges; 349 playgrounds; 43 shooting ranges; 24 observation towers; and much, much more.

**PEOPLE ASSETS:** 574 full time employees; 495 Conservation Board Members; 350+ part-time & seasonal employees and thousands of volunteers.

County conservation boards present over **25,850 conservation education programs** each year with **753,000+ participants**.

**Quality of life is enhanced** and supported in **all 99 counties** due to the presence of Iowa’s county conservation boards – supporting workforce development & retention with tremendous local support, partnerships & control.

**Thousands of outdoor recreation opportunities** in Iowa’s county park system provide natural **healthy lifestyle choices** across the state.

**5,800 jobs** supported by associated spending while using county parks. **\$167.5 million in payroll** generated for these 5,800 jobs (*excludes CCB jobs & payroll*)

*It would be quite appropriate for you to interpret these statistics and formulas to your local situation. This information is available online under the “Economic Impact” tab at: <http://mycountyparks.weebly.com/>*



## Camping Information

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

10,507 total campsites\* ..... 7,548 modern (72%) ..... 2,959 non-modern

180 day camping season X 35% occupancy = 63 camper days

63 X 10,507 campsites = 661,194 camper days

661,194 X \$59.60/day = **\$39,407,162 economic impact**



## Trail Information

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

*Since 2006 - mileage increased by 16% and ridership growth at about 28%*

1,535.72 miles of trails\* ..... 426.69 of these are hard-surfaced

1,536 miles X 1,533 people/mile = 2,354,688 annual trail users

2,354,688 users X \$8.80/day = **\$20,721,254 economic impact**



## Hunting Information

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

145,932 acres of hunting lands X \$400/acre =

**\$58,372,800 economic impact**

### KEY TO 2012 IACCB CONFERENCE PHOTO PAGE:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Buchanan &amp; Louisa delegates network on patio</li> <li>2. Milt Owen (Mitchell) &amp; Gene Olsen (Decatur)</li> <li>3. Spouse tour &amp; Honey Creek Executive Chef</li> <li>4. Mitchell &amp; Chickasaw staff on hay rack tour</li> <li>5. Concurrent educational session at resort</li> <li>6. Fayette CCB receives Habitat Award</li> <li>7. Tour group has “milk pot stew” – Van Buren Co.</li> <li>8. Social time with Exhibitors before BBQ dinner</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. John Wayne hams it up with Jones CCB member</li> <li>10. Hitting the BBQ buffet line with “The Duke”</li> <li>11. Neal Moeller (Crawford) receives 50 years recognition</li> <li>12. Dishing out the milk pot stew in Morris Park</li> <li>13. Solar bldg. near wind energy exhibit @ Honey Creek</li> <li>14. Benton Board Member walks across D.M. River</li> <li>15. “Eastern Tour” stops in Bentonsport</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

## **Architectural Design**

### **Design Dynamics**

Robert W. Peck, AIA  
1500 2nd Ave. SE, #212  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403  
319/298-0400  
RobertP@designdynamics.biz  
www.designdynamics.biz

### **HGM Associates, Inc.**

Ron Tekippe  
640 5th Ave., PO Box 919  
Council Bluffs, IA 51502  
712/323-0530  
rtekippe@hgmonline.com

## **Bike Trail & Pavement Maintenance & Repair**

### **Denco Highway Construction Corp.**

Jesse Denman  
416 E. Main St., Mingo, IA 50168  
641/363-4212 Fax: 641/363-4211

## **Building Materials**

### **Cedar Forest Products Co.**

Matt Lilly  
PO Box 98, Polo, IL 61064-0098  
800/552-9495 815/946-3994  
Fax: 815/946-2479  
cfpinfo@cedarforestproducts.com  
www.cedarforestproducts.com

## **Chainsaws & Equipment**

### **Mississippi Valley Stihl, Inc.**

Sheila Elsey or Ian Hunt  
302 N Commerce Pl. Peoria, IL 61604  
309/697-5860 Fax: 309/697-5890  
sheila.elsey@stihl.us  
ian.hunt@stihl.us  
www.stihlusa.com



## **Clothing & Promotional**

### **Carpenter Uniform & Promotional Products**

Dennis Gruss  
5801 Thornton Ave.  
Des Moines, IA 50321-2411  
800/397-1985 515/283-1985  
Fax: 515/283-2557  
dennis@carpenterunipro.com

## **Conservation**

### **Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation**

Mark C. Ackelson, President  
505 5th Ave., Suite 444  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
515/288-1846 ext. 15  
Fax: 515/288-0137  
info@inhf.org www.inhf.org

### **Izaak Walton League-Iowa Div.**

Jay Samuelson  
118 SE 4th St., Suite 104  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
800/957-4340 515/883-2358  
Fax: 515/883-2362  
iowaikes@qwestoffice.net  
www.iowaikes.net

### **Trees Forever**

Shannon Ramsay  
770 7th Ave., Marion, IA 52302  
800/369-1269 319/373-0650  
Fax: 319/373-0528  
sramsay@treesforever.org  
www.treesforever.org

## **Docks**

### **Connect-A-Dock Sales**

Steve Teague  
1501 Owner Ave.  
Atlantic, IA 50022  
641/742-3071 Fax: 712/243-2469  
steve.teague@connectadock.com  
www.connectadock.com



### **EZ Dock of the Midwest**

Dick Moe  
P.O. Box 112, Red Wing, MN 55066  
800/654-8168 651/388-8997  
Fax: 651/388-9891  
moes@redwing.net  
www.ez-dock.com

### **V.W. Dock Company**

Scott Chambers  
PO Box 343, Spirit Lake, IA 51360  
800/893-6257 712/336-1016  
Fax: 712/336-1074  
info@vwdocks.com  
www.vwdocks.com

## **Grass Seed & Related**

### **Allendan Seed Company**

Dan Allen  
1966 175th Lane, Winterset, IA 50273  
515/462-1241 Fax: 515/462-4084  
allendan@allendanseed.com  
http://allendanseed.com/

### **Custom Seed Services**

Roger Schwery  
PO Box 88, 66 Main St.  
Panama, IA 51562  
712/489-2430 Fax: 712/489-2530  
customseed@iowatelecom.net

### **ION Exchange, Inc.**

Howard & Donna Bright  
1878 Old Mission Dr.  
Harpers Ferry, IA 52146  
800/291-2143 563/535-7231  
Fax: 563/535-7362  
hbright@acegroup.cc  
www.ionxchange.com

### **La Crosse Forage & Turf Seed Co.**

Bert Strayer  
2302 SE Creekview Ste. #6  
Ankeny, IA 50021  
800/810-1618 515/965-4425  
Fax: 515/965-4427  
bstrayer@lftseed.com  
www.lftseed.com



**PREFERRED VENDORS**

## **Grass Seed & Related**

**Osenbaugh's Prairie Seed Farms**  
*John Osenbaugh*  
11009 542nd St., Lucas, IA 50151  
800/582-2788 641/766-6792  
Fax: 641/766-6795  
johno@iowatelecom.net

## **Grounds Care Equipment**

**Kunau Implement Company**  
*Todd Kunau*  
2114 270th Ave., DeWitt, IA 52742  
563/659-2866 Fax: 563/689-4621  
todd.kunau@kunauimplement.com  
www.kunauimplement.com

## **Midwest Turf & Irrigation**

*Jerry Deines*  
14201 Chalco Valley Pky.  
Omaha, NE 68138  
800/473-0501 402/895-8900  
Fax: 402/895-8913  
jdeines@midwestturf.net  
www.midwestturf.net

## **Truax Company**

*Jim Truax*  
4300 Quebec Ave. N.  
New Hope, MN 55428  
763/537-6639 Fax: 763/537-8353  
truax3@qwestoffice.net  
www.truaxcomp.com

## **Hydro Mulch & Equip.**

### **Mason City Recycling**

*Chuck Petzoldt*  
P.O. Box 1534, Mason City, IA 50402  
800/373-1200 641/423-1534  
Fax: 641/424-8726  
chuck@mcrecycling.com

## **Industrial Equipment**

**Vermeer Iowa & Northern MO**  
*Brian Koonce*  
Box 168, Pella, IA 50219  
866/483-7633 641/628-2000  
Fax: 641/628-4283  
brian.koonce@vermeerdlr.com  
www.vermeeriowa.com

## **Janitorial Supplies**

**Central Iowa Dist.**  
*Mark McBride*  
19 S. 21st St., Box 891  
Ft. Dodge, IA 50501  
800/383-6089 515/955-2344  
Fax: 515/955-4799  
centdist@frontiernet.net  
www.cidsanitary.com

## **Park & Playground**

### **Equipment & Surfacing**

**Boland Recreation**  
*Mark Boland / Matt Brant*  
2347 Oak Park Rd.  
Marshalltown, IA 50158  
800/798-7589 641/751-5338  
Fax: 641/752-6604  
iowaparkplace@mchsi.com  
www.bolandrecreation.com

### **Iowa Ready Mixed Concrete Assoc.**

*Steve Mallicoat*  
380 SE Delaware Ave., Suite A  
Ankeny, IA 50021  
515/965-4575 Fax: 515/963-4010  
smallicoat@iowareadymix.org  
www.iowareadymix.org

## **Midwest Sales Company**

*Mark Peterson*  
P.O. Box 416, Bettendorf, IA 52722  
800/346-2371 563/322-5501  
Fax: 563/336-4017  
sales@mscplay.com  
www.midwestplaygrounds.com or  
www.mscplay.com

## **Outdoor Recreation Products**

*Jennifer Pospichal*  
1055 N. 205th St., Elkhorn, NE 68022  
800/747-5437 402/289-0400  
Fax: 402/289-0300  
jenniferp@outdoorrec.net  
www.outdoorrecreationproducts.com

## **Plastic Recycling of Iowa Falls**

*Susan Waters*  
10252 Hwy. 65  
Iowa Falls, IA 50126-8823  
800/338-1438 641/648-5073  
Fax: 641/648-5074  
sue.waters@plasticrecycling.us  
www.plasticrecycling.us

## **R.J. Thomas Mfg. Co.**

*Steve Thomas*  
Box 946, Cherokee, IA 51012-0946  
800/762-5002 712/225-5115  
Fax: 712/225-5796  
pilotrock@rjthomas.com  
www.pilotrock.com

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