

2013-2014 Annual Report



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Iowa Conservation Education Coalition



An abundance of educational opportunities were available at **"Seasons of Plenty" Midwest Environmental Education Conference** in 2013!

Whether you were a seasoned environmental educator, new to the environmental or educational fields, an informal educator or simply have a passion for the environment, you were guaranteed to be enlightened and inspired by the educational sessions offered during the Midwest Environmental Education Conference (MEEC). **"MEEC was one of the best environmental education conferences I have ever been to!"** said Marcy Seavey, Program Director, Iowa Academy of Science. **"Not only were the sessions outstanding, I never been to a conference that did such an excellent job of modeling sustainability and environmental literacy!"** MEEC was held September 25-28, 2013 at the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, in Coralville, Iowa.



ICEC empowers Iowa's formal and informal educators to promote environmental literacy

The conference boasted an impressive 64 educational sessions covering topics in the areas of:

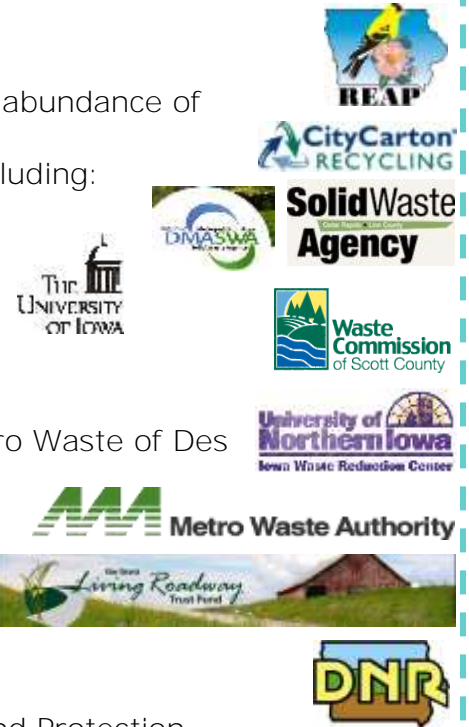
- Environmental Education Literacy
- Growing Green
- Natural Resources
- Inspiration

- Leadership/Management
- Cornucopia
- Sustainability
- Conserving Resources

In addition to the educational sessions, there are an abundance of additional educational opportunities during the conference, including:

- two workshops;
- 10 field trips;
- three award-winning keynote presenters;
- exhibit hall;
- plus entertainment, great food and fun!

Thanks to our sponsors: City Carton (\$500.00); Metro Waste of Des Moines (\$250.00); University of Northern Iowa (\$500.00); Cedar Rapids Linn County Solid Waste Agency (\$1000.00); Dubuque Solid Waste (\$250.00); University of Iowa (\$750.00); Iowa City Landfill and Recycling Center (\$500.00) totaling \$4,250.00.



We received three grants, Resource Enhancement And Protection—Conservation Education Program \$31,849.41, Department of Natural Resources SWAP grant program \$8,232.12, Iowa Department of Transportation's Living Roadway Trust Funds for \$1,701.98.

This regional gathering is the premier environmental education conference in the Midwest. Participants were able to meet and network with over xxx teachers, naturalists and others with specialties in: wastewater, environmental health, natural resources, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), watershed, energy, solid waste & recycling education and regulation.

ICEC awarded scholarships to 53 attendees. An orientation meeting every morning was given to the scholarship winners. Their duties were to introduce speakers, **hand out evaluations, and act as "go-fers"**.

MEEC is hosted every four years with Minnesota, Illinois and Wisconsin.

Field Sessions



Chris Holt Scholarship table





Kamyar Enshayan, University of Northern Iowa's Center for Energy and Environmental Education.



A special thanks to Co-chairs Sondra Cabell and Karen Phelps and everyone who worked on the planning committee!

Co-Sponsored by Iowa Association of Naturalists and ICEC

Keynotes with a message:

Keynote speakers were: David Allaway, Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality, via video link



MEEC was supported by a REAP-CEP grant.

Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP): Invest in Iowa, our outdoors, our heritage, our people. REAP is supported by the state of Iowa, providing funding to public and private partners for natural and cultural resource projects, including water quality, wildlife habitat, soil conservation, parks, trails, historic preservation and more.



"A Sense of Wonder" was performed by Kaiulani Lee, about the extremely private Rachel Carson. Rachel was known as "the patron saint of the environmental movement." And author of the book "Silent Spring".



Doug Wood and Wild Spirit Bank performed his original, nature-themed music on guitar, Banjo, and mandolin for everyone's entertainment.



Susan Salterberg introducing keynote speaker David Allaway



Message From the Chair

2013 – 2014: ICEC's STRATEGIC PLAN IN ACTION!

A little more a year ago in the dead of winter ICEC Executive Committee members hunkered down for a strategic planning session facilitated by Jean Eells of E Resources. We brainstormed, effused, pondered, lamented, and laughed. Amazingly - I am pleased and honored to report - we distilled our energies into a plan of action that has not only come to fruit during this past year, but continues to grow and move forward.



Inspired by ICEC's mission – to empower Iowa's formal and informal educator to promote environmental literacy and to facilitate networking – we identified a dual need: to better connect formal and non-formal educators with relevant and contemporary environmental projects in their own regions, and the need to expand **ICEC's network of formal and non-formal educators** to include conservation and resource professionals that traditionally do not come from education backgrounds.

That is, many formal and non-formal educators often lack up-to-date information about conservation projects in their regions that could inform their science education with authentic experiences for their students. This is compounded by the fact that too often formal and non-formal educators, education

professionals and non-education conservation professionals work in disconnected networks without systematic ways to interact productively.

Finally, non-education conservation professionals often have few means to learn and adopt new best education practices for teaching science or informing the public about the projects they are working on.

In the past year, ICEC has been working on turning this conundrum into an opportunity through the workshops described in this annual report: the Midwest Environmental Education Conference, the Next Generation Science Standards and Environmental Education Seminar held in January, and the ICEC networking workshop held during the Iowa Association of Naturalists workshop in March.

Not only were these events successful, they also helped lay the groundwork for our next big **upcoming workshop, "Diving into Networking" ICEC Winter Workshop** to be held February 6-7, 2015 at Spring Brook Environmental Education Center. The workshop is the result of a convergence of 3 things – **ICEC's strategic planning, a REAP CEP funded project to bring NGSS science practices to non-education conservation professionals, and another REAP-CEP funded project to merge work of an informal committee of water resource educators with an ICEC winter workshop planning team.**



Strategic Planning by the Board

Our goal is to bring together key partners that normally do not have the opportunity to network together, such as representatives from Area Education Agencies, County Conservation Boards, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardships and County Soil Districts

These accomplishments would not be possible without YOU, our membership. I also thank my fellow ICEC Executive Committee members, E-Resources and Linda Zaletel, ICEC Executive Director, for her tireless efforts to keep us on track and **moving forward**. Finally, ICEC's accomplishments are also made possible through program support provided by **Iowa's Resource Enhancement And Protection Conservation Education Program (REAP-CEP)**.

See you in February but I hope sooner!
Conservationally Yours,
Jane Shuttleworth

SAVE THE DATE
"DIVING INTO NETWORKING"
ICEC 'S WINTER WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 6 & 7, 2015

Networking!

ICEC has expanded our **networking ...**



American Camping Association, Reiman Gardens, Simpson, Kirkwood College's, Iowa Afterschool Alliance, Flickiner Learning Center, Community Youth Concepts, Grout Museum
Iowa Children's Museum, Cedar Rapids Science Center, Iowa 4-H, Iowa Academy of Science, Keep Iowa Beautiful, Blank Park Zoo, Global Horizons, Iowa Museum Association, Iowa Environmental Council, ISU Museums, Waste Management, Mid American Recycling, Iowa Waste Reduction Center, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

ICEC will continue to reach out to new organizations.



Networking at MEEC 2013

2013 IAN/ICEC Environmental Education

Award Winners

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

Outstanding County Conservation Board EE Program (3 or more interpreters)

Linn County Conservation Board



2013

Aldo Leopold Environmental Education Award

For Lifetime Achievement in EE Excellence and Leadership

Chris Adkins -Dallas County Conservation Board



Outstanding Interpretative Non-Print Media Award

Okoboji Osprey Web Camera - Dickinson County Conservation Board



Ada Hayden Conservation Education Award

For Outstanding Efforts to Educate About Preservation, Land Management, or Natural Resource Conservation



Bohumil Shimek Environmental Educator Award

For Outstanding Efforts by an Environmental Educator

Christina Roelofs - Shelby & Audubon County Conservation Boards



Tammy Turner

Outstanding Volunteer

Andy & Pam Stone -Jasper County



Outstanding County Conservation board EE Program (2 or less interpreters)

Washington County Conservation Board



Sylvan Runkel Environmental Education School Award

Central Lutheran School -Benton County



"Ding" Darling Environmental Education Award

For Outstanding EE Program or Event which Informs and Educates the General Public



Lee County Conservation Board

Chris Holt Youth Environmental Education Award

For an Outstanding EE Program for Youth or Conducted by Youth (Preschool-Grade 12)

Outdoor P.E. Program of the Wapsi River Environmental Education Center - Scott County Conservation Board



For more information on ICEC's award winner's www.icec.org

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, **it's the only thing that ever has.** Margaret Mead*



ICEC Supports REAP and REAP-CEP

REAP stands for Resource Enhancement and Protection. It is a program in the State of Iowa that invests in, as its name implies, the enhancement and protection of the state's natural and cultural resources.

Iowa is blessed with a diverse array of natural and cultural resources, and REAP is likewise diverse and far reaching. Depending on the individual programs, REAP provides money for projects through state agency budgets or in the form of grants. Several aspects of REAP also encourage private contributions that help accomplish program objectives.



REAP is funded from the state's Environment First Fund (Iowa gaming receipts) and from the sale of the natural resource license plate. The program is authorized to receive \$20 million per year until 2021, but the state legislature sets the amount of REAP funding every year. This year REAP was appropriated \$16 million. When you add license plate and interest income, its total budget is about \$16.5 million.

REAP funds go into eight different programs based upon a percentages that are specified in the law.

The first \$350,000 each year goes to Conservation Education!

SUPPORT REAP!

Budget - April 2013-April 2014

INCOME	
MEEC Income	
MEEC 2013	\$35,572.30
MEEC DOT LRTF	\$201.98
MEEC Sponsorships	\$4,375.00
SWAP	\$8,665.39
Membership Dues	\$3,875.00
NGSS & EE Seminar 2014	\$930.00
WW 2015 CEP Grant	\$3,500.00
Total Income	\$70,774.08

Expenses

Administration	
Marketing	\$957.31
Display Fees	\$155.69
Bank Charges	\$1.07
Education	\$25.00
Mileage	\$702.95
Office Supplies	\$817.19
Insurance	\$1,311.00
Printing/Copying	\$474.09
Postage	\$266.67
Travel	\$282.39

Contracted Services	
Accountant	\$2,600.00
Administrative Coordinator	\$11,375.00
MEEC	
Conf Register Refunds	\$2,212.00
LRTF Grant Expenses	\$1,701.98
MEEC General Expense	\$12,196.15
REAP-CEP Expense	\$29,349.41
SWAP Grant Expense	\$8,665.39
TOTAL MEEC	\$54,124.93

PayPal fee	\$714.60
Plaques	\$619.30
Merchandise Expense	\$355.00
Organization memberships	
IEC	\$100.00
INHF	\$100.00
NAAEE Affiliates	\$200.00
IAS	\$90.00
IAEYC	\$120.00
REAP Alliance	\$250.00
Total	\$860.00

Paypal Fee	\$41.19
Programs	
EPA	\$3,120.00
Total Programs	\$3,120.00

Strategic Planning Meeting	\$3,000.00
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Winter Workshop 2015 Workshop/Conference	\$3,112.00 \$58.50
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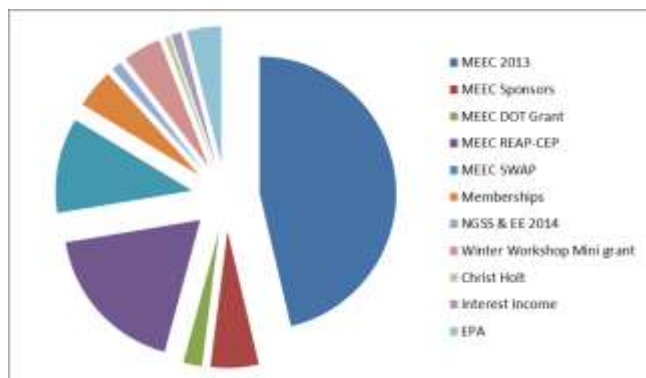
NET Ordinary Income	-\$14,362.14
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Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Chris Holt Scholarship	\$475.00
Interest Income	\$474.82
Total Income	\$949.82

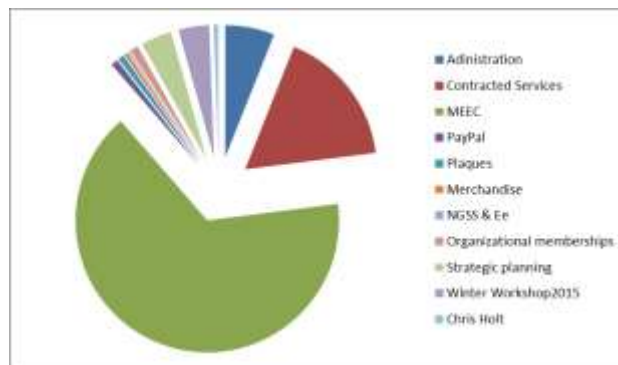
Total Other Income	\$949.82
Total Other Expense	\$325.00

Net Other Income	-\$13,737.32
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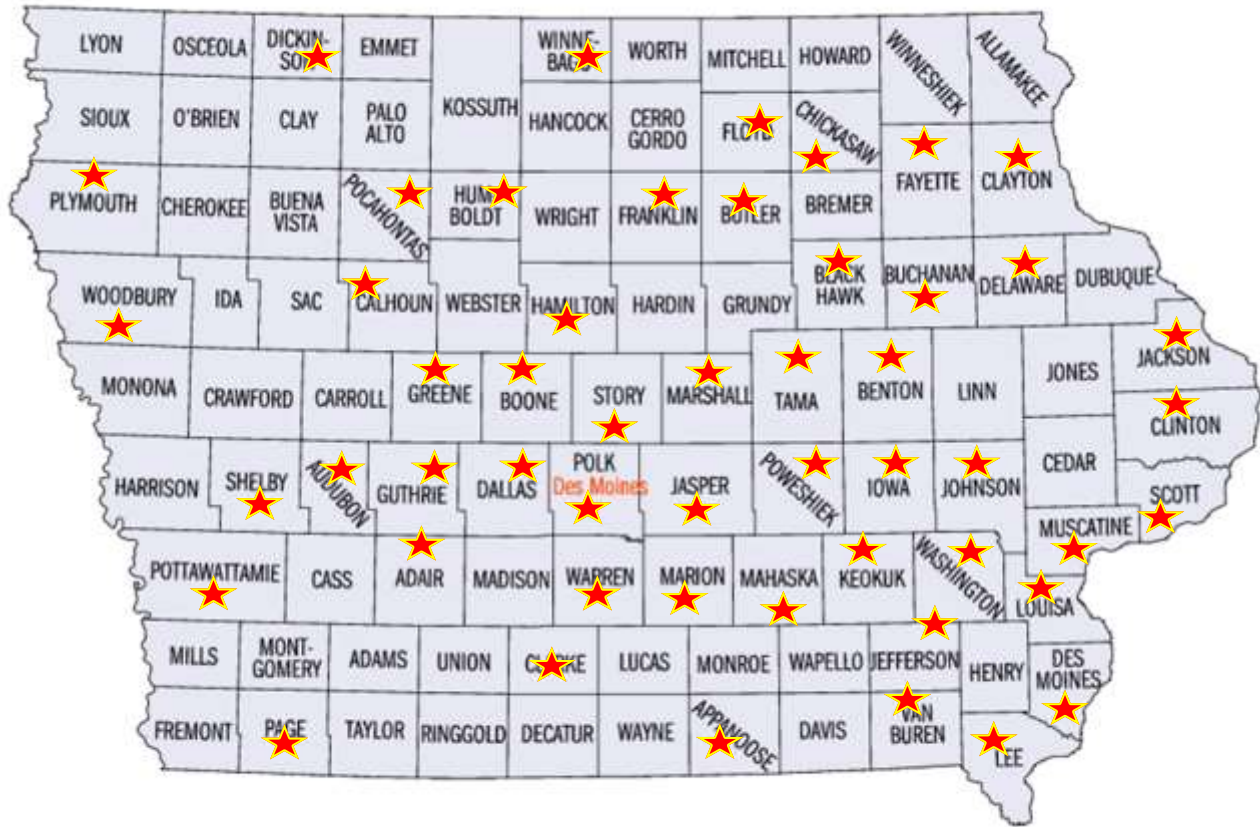
Income



Expenses



ICEC MEMBERSHIP BY COUNTIES



Out of state - 4

ICEC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jane Shuttleworth
Chair
Education Coordinator
Iowa Lakeside Laboratory
Milford, IA

Heather Olsen
Vice Chair
Assistant Professor
University of Northern Iowa
School of HPELS
Cedar Falls, IA

Kathleen Scholl
Treasurer

University of Northern Iowa
Recreation, Research and Service
Coordinator
Cedar Falls, Iowa

Torey Olson
Secretary
Teacher
Perry, IA

Barb Ehlers
Upper Iowa University
Stanley, Iowa

Ed Saehler
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

Kristin Simon
Solid Waste Planner
ECICOG
Cedar Rapids, IA

Brian Gibbs
Naturalist
Clayton County Conservation Board
Elkader, IA

ICEC Executive Director
Linda Zaletel
Nevada, Iowa

Review 2013

In January of 2013 ICEC held a retreat and strategic planning session and elected a new Chair, Jane Shuttleworth, Education and Outreach Coordinator at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory.

Thank you to Barb Ehlers, and Ed Saehler for being co-chairs 20 - 2014 ICEC also thanks Angie Reid and Torey Olson for serving on the board.

2013 ICEC was the year of MEEC! The Midwest Environmental Education Conference, was held in Iowa, September 25-28, 2013.

Thank you to the , Co-Chairs of the MEEC Conference, Sondra Cabell, Karen Phelps, and planning members Mike Krebill, Kristin Simon, Gail Barels, Brad Freidhof, Phyllis Anderson, Kathy Scholl, Susan Salterberg and Ed Saehler!



ICEC changed their dues structure to one date a year for our membership. This helps simplify the administrative process. We also included PayPal on our membership page.

ICEC took part in "EnviroLobby Day" at the state capitol the same day a unpredicted blizzard hit the city slowing everything down.

ICEC's Executive Director, Linda Zaletel, attended STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) meetings through the year and increased our networking capabilities. She also attended a Constant Contact seminar on newsletters and is working to upgrade the newsletter.

With the introduction of NGSS and STEM, ICEC feels that Environmental Literacy (ELP) can be implemented in Iowa.

Future 2014 plans were made for a one day seminar: NGSS and Environmental Education in January 25, 2014. Marcy Seavey stepped up to help facilitate the seminar. Plans for a new website are in the works to be launched in June of 2014, along with planning a Winter Workshop with the theme of water in February 2015.

It's been a busy year and we thank all our members for their support! We encourage our members to become active and support ICEC! Help us fill out the map on page 7, we need members in every county!

MOVING FORWARD With ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY through NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS

Beginning in 2008, ICEC became involved in a four state initiative to develop Environmental Literacy Plan (ELP) based on guidelines and recommendations made by the North American Association for Environmental Education, thanks to a grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency.



After holding state wide summits and **participating in the Governor's** Conference on Environmental Education, ICEC successfully **completed Iowa's Environmental Literacy Plan** in 2012. A complete **version of Iowa's ELP plan** may be found on our website www.iowaEE.org.

The impending adoption of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) represents an unprecedented **opportunity to implement Iowa's ELP**. NGSS is strong on teaching environmental and sustainability education, and ICEC is poised to help educators adopt NGSS.

NGSS is not about testing or **memorizing, it's about the students** thinking like scientists and engineers. They ask questions, conduct investigations, use mathematics and models, engage in reasoning and argument based on evidence, and, communicate information and ideas. They learn as scientists learn.

Nonetheless, ICEC believes it is a matter of time before NGSS will be adopted in Iowa. ICEC will be ready to assist educators in teaching the new EE science standards through our methods of workshops, seminars, future webinars and networking with other state agencies and organizations.

ICEC empowers Iowa's formal and informal educators to promote environmental literacy and facilitate networking

Iowa Conservation Education
Coalition
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