

# TIMBER TALK

Newsletter of the Iowa Woodland Owners Association

Winter, 1998

Volume 8, Number 1

## Summary, January 1998 Board Meeting

The IWOA Board of Directors met in Marion, IA January 10, 1998. Present were Directors Ahrens, Eiben, Frye, Hansen, Krotz, Manning, Mills and Twedt. Also present were State Forester Bill Farris, DNR Wildlife Supervisor Donald Pfeiffer and DNR Wildlife Depredation Biologist Jim Jansen.

Secretary Frye reported that current membership is 365, a gain of two over that of this time last year.

Treasurer J. Mensinger's Treasurer's Reports for September, 1997 and January, 1998 were distributed. Current net worth of IWOA is \$8,141.52, a gain of \$854.64 over that of last year at this time.

Frye reported that the Iowa Forestry Division's questionnaire asking members to prioritize Forestry's services to landowners will be distributed in the winter issue of TIMBER TALK.

Krotz agreed to serve as IWOA's delegate to the Iowa Forestry Roundtable sponsored by the Society of American Foresters, scheduled for February 26, 1998 at Prairie City, Iowa.

As an organization, declined to formally endorse the Northeast Forestry Advisory Committee's "Forest Resource Support Proposal" seeking additional State funding for Iowa Forestry, but encouraged individual members to do so.

Authorized establishment of a Gift Membership program to be administered by the Membership Committee. Authorized Membership Committee to issue up to 10 complimentary memberships for this year and to spend up to \$300 on advertising.

Ahrens is working on setting up an IWOA-sponsored Field Day probably July 17 at the Bertch Cabinets Company in Cedar Falls.

Twedt reported that he is working with Extension Forester Paul Wray on planning for the IWOA booth at the 1998 Iowa State Fair.

Authorized contribution of \$100 to Future Farmers of America for forestry-related projects.

Bill Farris reported on Iowa forestry affairs, and distributed copies of a short report on "Iowa's Forest and Tree Health, 1997." He sought IWOA financial support for the privately funded "Trees for Kids" and "Trees for Teens" educational activities in the public schools. IWOA Executive Committee directed to investigate feasibility of such support.

Jim Jansen reviewed the current situation on wildlife damage to vegetation and the means currently being used to alleviate the damage. He emphasized that he is anxious to work with landowners to find acceptable solutions to their wildlife damage problems.

Hansen reported that he believes a great deal of progress is being made on the wildlife depredation problem, and that IWOA is continuing to participate in the DNR's Wildlife Damage Task Force meetings.

Krotz reported on his attendance at IDALS-sponsored meetings on Wetlands. A draft final report has been prepared.

Approved \$1,000 contribution to the Iowa Tree Farm Committee to co-sponsor supplying educational materials for this year's Master Woodland Manager training sessions.

Regarding 1998 IWOA Annual Meeting, Manning directed to investigate holding it at the New Melleray Abbey site near Cascade.

Authorized purchase of 150 Winter and 150 Summer tree identification booklets for resale at the Tri-State Forestry conference in Sinsinawa, WI March 28, 1998.

Next Board meeting was set for 10:00am April 4, 1998 at Marion, IA.

## Acting State Horticulturist Named

Steve Pedersen of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) has been named Acting State Horticulturist, replacing Doug Struyk, who resigned to pursue other interests. In his new position, Mr. Pedersen works closely

with the Iowa State Horticultural Society (ISHS), of which IWOA is a constituent member.

Mr. Pedersen previously served as Bureau Chief of the Agricultural Marketing Bureau of IDALS.

## Forestry Assistance Survey

Because of severe funding constraints, Iowa Forestry is forced to prioritize the services it provides to Iowa woodland owners, and has asked IWOA to assist it by surveying its members to help Forestry in this matter. Enclosed with this issue of TIMBER TALK is a survey form generated by State Forester Bill Farris's office. Please fill out the survey form, fold, tape, stamp and mail. No separate envelope is necessary. We urge our members to participate in this survey.

## Upcoming Forestry-Related Meetings of Interest

### *Nontraditional Forestry and Agriculture Opportunities Workshop*

This workshop will run from 8:00am to 4:30pm March 14, 1998 at the Southwestern Community College in Creston, IA. The workshop is designed for people who want to learn more about special forest and agriculture products, and want to generate more income from both their woodlands and croplands. Topics will include medicinal plants, pollen collection, wild seed collection, lease hunting, organic farming, timber stand improvement and management.

Workshop sponsors include the Southern Iowa RC&D, Southwestern Community College Adult & Continuing Education, Iowa DNR Forestry Division, USDA Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Registration for the workshop will be \$10.00 (includes lunch). Contact Southwestern Community College, Adult & Continuing Education, 1501 West Townline, Creston, IA 50801, phone 515-782-7081 for further details or to register.

### *Tri-State Forest Stewardship Conference for Landowners.*

This meeting will be held at the Sinsinawa Mound Conference Center in Wisconsin, about 10 miles east of Dubuque, from 9:00am to 4:30pm Saturday March 28, 1998. The meeting will cover a wide range of activities of interest to woodland owners including Beginning and Advanced Tree Identification, Identification of Woodland Wildflowers, Chain Saw Operation, Regeneration Systems, Direct Seeding, Maple Syrup Production and Record Keeping in a number of concurrent sessions.

The meeting is being organized and sponsored by the DNR's and Extension Foresters of Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin.

For meeting details and registration, contact Forestry Supervisor Jerry Kemperman at the State Forest Nursery, 2404 S. Duff Ave., Ames, IA 50010, phone 515-233-1161.

### *Master Woodland Manager Graduates—Ten Year Reunion*

A Ten Year Reunion of Master Woodland Manager Graduates is scheduled for 9:00am to 3:45pm Saturday, April 25, 1998 at the Tama County Nature Center north of Toledo, IA. The thrust of the meeting will be to update MWM's on woodland-related issues.

MWM's will be mailed detailed programs and registration information for this meeting in the near future.

## Wildlife Damage Task Force

The Wildlife Damage Task Force met at the Wallace Building January 12. Discussion focused primarily on the deer depredation management procedures enacted by the Natural Resources Commission in August 1997. Iowa DNR received over 100 requests to inspect wildlife damage and provide appropriate management recommendations. Most requests came from agricultural producers, however other high value horticultural crop producers also requested assistance. The latter category also includes tree farms and managed forests.

(Continued overleaf)



2735 14th. Ave.  
Marion, IA 52302-1848

Winter, 1998



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Mr. Thomas Brady  
199 NE 80th. St.  
Runnels, IA 50237-2028

50237-2128 02



### Wildlife Damage Task Force (Cont'd)

The group reviewed permit numbers and successes. DNR officials solicited comment regarding any problems in administering the procedures. While the revised deer depredation procedures seem to have provided an effective vehicle with which to alleviate deer damage, the rule is viewed as the beginning of a working document. The procedures are written to provide assistance for woodland owners, and it's very important that we use them when appropriate. Please take time to understand how these procedures will help with your own woodland management. If you have questions about the procedures or have obtained depredation permits and have comments, we'd certainly like to hear from you. The task force meets again March 9. The agenda will provide opportunity for a critique of the deer depredation management procedures.

Please address your comments to:

Gary C. Mensinger  
415 Second Street  
Camanche, IA 52730  
email: [jmensing@po-1.camanche.k12.ia.us](mailto:jmensing@po-1.camanche.k12.ia.us)  
voice: 319-259-1160

Gary C. Mensinger, Past President, IWOA

### Iowa Timber Sales, 1997

Summarized below are the ranges of timber prices paid as reported by Iowa District Foresters for sales during the period March through December, 1997. These are stumpage prices (unfelled trees) expressed in terms of dollars per thousand board feet (\$/MBF). We caution that they represent only a few percent of the total Iowa timber sales for the period, and are most likely on the high side since they are "sealed bid" sales of marked trees.

As explained in previous issues of TIMBER TALK, the price paid for a particular lot of trees depends upon a number of factors, including quality, ease of access and distance from markets. However, these figures can be useful in evaluating timber bids for reasonableness.

**Summary, 1997 Timber Prices**  
(Dollars per Thousand Board Feet)

Species Group*	Low	High	Average
Walnut	804	1629	1193
Oak, Red/White	308	741	392
Oak, Mixed	232	448	411
Marginal	365	365	365
Hardwood, Tolerant	457	457	457
Hardwood, Mixed	278	501	428
Maple, Bottomland	192	338	285

**\*Species Group Description:**

- Walnut - >90% of sale
- Oak, Red/White - >50% of volume
- Oak, Mixed - Total Oak >50%, Red/White <50%
- Marginal - Salvage, small TSI logs, Conifers
- Hardwood, Tolerant - Hard Maple, Basswood/Ash >50%
- Hardwood, Mixed - Upland <50% oak <50% Maple/Bass/Ash

Except for Walnut, these prices are considerably higher than those last year. Bottomland maple enjoyed an especially strong price increase.

### IDNR Initiates Wildlife Depredation Program

Conflicts between Iowa's agricultural producers and wild animals will be investigated by Iowa Department of Natural Resources' newly hired wildlife depredation biologists. The two new biologists were hired to primarily address concerns regarding crop damage caused by deer. Producers having damages of \$1500 or more in a single growing season are eligible for management plans which include special permits to harvest deer.

Iowa DNR biologists responded to 105 deer complaints received between August 1 and December 31, 1997. Of the 105 complaints, 23 pertained to trees of which 14 qualified for management plans. Within these 14 plans, 80 depredation licenses/permits were issued, resulting in the harvest of sixteen deer to date. Most of the tree damage occurred from antler rubbing by one or two bucks in a particular area. Deer browsing also caused some damage complaints.

The depredation biologists are working with landowners to attempt different techniques to reduce economic losses. Landowners with problems are encouraged to contact one of the two biologists depending on where you live in Iowa.

For those in Henry, Chicasaw, Bremer, Grundy, Marshall, Poweshiek, Mahaska, Wapello and Davis counties and all counties east of these, contact:

Jim Jansen, Wildlife Depredation Biologist  
IDNR-GSB  
109 Trowbridge Hall  
Iowa City, IA 52242-1319  
Office phone 319-335-4527, Cell phone 319-330-5578.

For those west of these counties, contact:

Jeff Telleen, Wildlife Depredation Biologist  
USDA  
RR 5, Box 119AA STE 5  
Chariton, IA 50049-9209,  
Office phone 515-774-8563, Cell phone 515-344-4021.

Jim Jansen, IDNR Wildlife Depredation Biologist

### The President's Corner

It does not seem that three months have passed since our Annual Meeting in Marshalltown. At our Board meeting on January 10, Secretary Frye informed us that our membership only gained a few in number this last year, so I thought I would take the opportunity to remind you that at the Annual Meeting I asked all members to recruit a new member for 1998. I am sure that we all know someone whom we could ask to become a member of IWOA.

We have many good things coming up in 1998, including an IWOA-sponsored Field Day, our presence at a booth at the Iowa State Fair and the Annual Meeting. If you have any ideas for Field Days or programs that you would like to see, please contact me or any Board member.

It looks like this spring we will be very busy planting all the Field Windbreaks and Riparian Buffers that are being signed up for. I am finding that some of the nursery stock is becoming in very short supply, thus some of the plantings will probably have to wait until 1999 to be planted. I hope that these new programs on tree and shrub planting will last well beyond the initial 15-year signup, and not be done away with like the CRP program was after 10 years.

Allen D. Manning, President, IWOA