

# TRAMBER TALK

Newsletter of the Iowa Woodland Owners Association

Summer, 1999

Volume 9, Number 3

## Summary, June 19 Board Meeting

The IWOA Board of Directors met at Marion, IA June 19, 1999. Present were Directors Frye, Manning, Mills, Twedt Ulfers and Woodruff. The meeting was called to order by President Manning. Also present were Past Director Larry Krotz and DNR Wildlife Depredation Biologist Jim Jansen.

Secretary Frye reported that the current membership is 382, compared with 379 at this time last year. Frye distributed a letter response from Senator Harkin to IWOA's letter seeking his support for the "Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread" program.

Treasurer Mensinger's quarterly financial report was distributed. It showed a new worth of \$8,212.80, a gain of \$667.13 over IWOA's net worth at this time last year.

Manning stated that he had not yet been able to locate an official IWOA delegate to the Iowa State Horticultural Society.

Received retired State Forester Gene Hertel's report on the FFA Awards ceremonies at which he represented IWOA in Des Moines April 15.

Membership Committee Chairperson Woodruff reported that he had obtained a list of 212 Forest Reserve properties in Johnson County, and presented the draft of a letter to be sent out to them asking them to consider joining IWOA. Secretary directed to put letter in final form and to supply Woodruff with appropriate number of copies.

Annual Meeting Chairperson Woodruff reported on arrangements for the 1999 IWOA Annual Meeting to be held at Kent Park, Iowa City, IA September 10-11, 1999. Most arrangements are now firm.

Forestry Field Day Chairperson Twedt reported on arrangements for the 1999 IWOA-sponsored Forestry Field Day to be held in the Loess Hills area July 21. Board approved arrangements. Secretary to seek publicity for the event.

Twedt reported on his preparations for IWOA's participation in the 1999 Iowa State Fair August 12-22. He stated that this year the Iowa State Horticultural Society (ISHS), the Iowa Christmas Tree Growers and IWOA will have an integrated exhibit. Board decided that again orders for IWOA's tree identification books will be taken, and that 500 updated IWOA brochures will be supplied. Mills agreed to update the artwork for the brochure.

Ulfers reported on the startup IWOA lending library. She will provide the material for an insert listing the publications available and the rules for borrowing to be inserted in the summer IWOA newsletter. Board decided that non-IWOA members could check out materials, but would be required to pay postage both ways, while members would pay only return postage.

Krotz reported that because of organizational problems not involving IWOA, IWOA may not have a booth at the Farm Progress Show at the Amana September 28-30. He will keep Board posted.

Jim Jansen presented a report on wildlife depredation complaints for 1998. In 1998 904 Deer Depredation licenses were issued resulting in 575 deer shot, and 106 Shooting Permits were issued with 35 deer being shot. He said that he is conducting controlled experiments with electric fencing and sessile twine fencing on IWOA Past President Gary Mensinger's woodlands. Jansen stated that managing deer depredation problems is complicated by the fact that deer typically range over a number of properties, and the various property owners have widely varying management objectives and techniques. Krotz again urged DNR to conduct a state-wide Environmental Impact Statement on the deer situation.

Board agreed to contribute \$100 to the Dan Cooper Scholarship Fund being established by ISHS.

Mills announced his resignation from the IWOA Board for personal reasons.

President stated that he is in the process of setting up the 1999 IWOA Board nominating committee. Secretary reviewed the timing of the various Board election actions specified by IWOA Bylaws.

Next Board meeting was set for the evening of September 10, 1999 at the Colony Inn Restaurant, Amana, IA.

## 1999 IWOA Forestry Field Day

The 1999 IWOA-sponsored Forestry Field Day will be held in the Loess Hills area July 21, 1999. This will be IWOA's first event in western Iowa.

The program is as follows:

9:00am	9:30am	Registration at Loess Hills Forest Visitor's Center, Pisgah, IA
9:30am	9:45am	Welcome by Allen Manning, IWOA
9:45am	10:30am	Loess Hills State Forest Welcome and GIS Demonstration
10:30am	11:00am	Loess Hills History and Alliance Update
11:00am	11:30am	Proceed to Loess Hills via private vehicles
11:30am	12:30pm	Picnic Lunch at Preparation Canyon State Park
12:30pm	4:00pm	Field Day Activities Topics: Tree Plantings Overlook of Loess Hills Savannah Work Prairie Management Riparian Planting

Pisgah is located on Iowa Highway 183 which has good connections to US-30 and I-29. The Visitor's Center is two blocks west of Ia-183 on Main St. in Pisgah.

For those needing overnight accommodations, the following motels in Missouri Valley, IA are about \$40 per night each.

Days Inn	Phone 712-642-4003
Super 8	Phone 712-642-4788

The advance registration fee of \$10 covers the cost of the lunch and refreshments. To register, send your name and a check in the amount of \$10 before July 14 to Greg Twedt, 2104 Zeller Ave., Marshalltown, IA 50158.

Registration at the event will cost \$13.

## 1999 IWOA Annual Meeting

The 1999 Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, September 11, 1999, and will be headquartered at Kent Park, about six miles west of Coralville, IA off of US-6. The agenda for the meeting calls for registration 7:30am to 8:30am followed by speakers until 11:15am. The IWOA Annual Meeting for the membership is scheduled for 11:15am. A catered box lunch will be from 12 noon to 1:00pm. The afternoon will be devoted to tours of the park. Round tables will be held in the event of serious rain.

A Woodlands Barbecue will be held after the tours, and Geologist Dr. Brian Glenister, is scheduled to present a talk on the nearby Devonian Fossil Gorge.

Beautiful hand-carved wooden birds will be presented as door prizes.

The final meeting schedule and registration materials will be mailed to members in mid-August.

## Representation to ISHS Needed

IWOA needs a regular representative to Iowa State Horticultural Society Board meetings (of which IWOA is a constituent member), which are held quarterly and mostly in the Des Moines area. If interested, please contact Allen Manning, 1404 Colwell Ave., Charles City, IA 50616, Phone 515-228-5755

## 1999 Nominating Committee

The Executive Committee appointed IWOA Past President Gary Mensinger to chair the 1999 Nominating Committee. This committee will nominate candidates for the IWOA Board seats of James Ahrens, Allen Manning and Greg Twedt, which are expiring at the 1999 Annual Meeting, plus the one year remaining on the term of Lawrence Mills, who has resigned from the Board. Ballots will be mailed to voting members of IWOA by mid-August.

(Continued overleaf)



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

Summer, 1999



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Mr. Thomas Brady  
199 NE 80th. St.  
Runnels, IA 50237-2128

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Voting members wishing to be considered for nomination to the Board should submit resumes to Gary Mensinger before July 24. The Board meets quarterly, usually on a Saturday morning in locations more-or-less in the central part of the state. Some interim committee work is also expected of Board members. Board members elect IWOA's officers for the coming year at the Annual Meeting. For further information, contact:

Gary Mensinger  
415 2<sup>nd</sup>. St.  
Camanche, IA 52730-2304  
Phone 319-259-1160

### Dan Cooper Scholarships

The Iowa State Horticultural Society (ISHS), of which IWOA is a constituent member, announces the creation of a scholarship fund to honor the memory of the late Dan Cooper, who served as Iowa Horticulturist from 1982-1995. During his tenure, ISHS established a number of innovative programs.

ISHS plans to publicize and promote the scholarship throughout this year, including a fund-raiser at the Iowa State Fair. The goal is to raise the necessary funds so that the scholarship is endowed, enabling scholarships to be given annually from the interest gained from the funds.

A committee is working to establish criteria for awarding the scholarship.

For further information on the scholarship or to make a tax-deductible donation, contact ISHS, Wallace Office Bldg, 502 East 9<sup>th</sup>. St., Des Moines, IA 50319-0058, phone 515-281-5402.

The IWOA Board has authorized contribution of \$100 to this scholarship fund.

### FFA Proficiency Awards

Retired State Forester Gene Hertel represented IWOA at the FFA Proficiency Awards held in Des Moines April 16, 1999. IWOA, the Iowa Tree Farm Committee and the Iowa Christmas Tree Growers Association share in financially supporting the Forest Management award. First place went to Tanner Kuhl of Creston, IA for his four-year effort of windbreak, roadside and stream bank tree planting. Second place went to Jesse Dugan of Charles City for producing firewood for sale from timber harvest residues and from sawmill slabs.

### IADNR Staffing Increase

The NE IA Forestry Advisory Committee (NEIFAC) has been working with Rep. Roger Thomas (Elkader) and Sen. Kitty Rehberg (Rowley) for Forest Resource Support legislation. Although the original proposal did not make it through the legislative session, a portion of the proposal was adopted. That portion was to increase the IADNR Forestry Division's staff of foresters. During the past legislative session, the provision for additional staffing was included in HF 746. HF 746 provided for 5 new positions for the IADNR Forestry and Prairies Division.

The 5 positions are defined in the legislation as 1 district forester for SW Iowa and 4 forestry technicians. In the short term, they will be hiring/placing a Forester II in the Loess Hills office and hire 4 entry level forestry positions for Eastern Iowa. It is planned for technicians in the Charles City, Elkader, and Anamosa office, and probably one shared between the Fairfield and Wapello offices. It is planned to have the new technician positions concentrate on cost share administration in order to

free up the district foresters to work with more landowners and do promotional activities.

These positions are funded with a 5 cent increase on conifers and 10 cent increase in hardwoods and shrubs sold by the State Forestry Nursery. IADNR Forestry and Prairies Division have filed, under the emergency administrative rule making procedure, to increase the price of nursery stock. Conifers will be 20 cents each, hardwood and shrubs under 16" will be 35 cents each and hardwood and shrubs over 17" will be 40 cents each.

Will E. Ogle, Member, IWOA and NEIFAC

### New Services Offered to Loess Hills Landowners

New grants will allow the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF) to expand its landowner services to western Iowa. Loess Hills landowners who want to protect their natural land; grazed hills and prairies will soon receive more information and support services to help them do so.

Two new grants to INHF will fund a new voluntary protection initiative, which includes one-on-one information for individual landowners, landowner workshops and research to help identify and prioritize lands for protection. Limited funds are also available to purchase property or selected property rights from willing landowners who want the conservation and tax benefits of permanent land protection.

Owning a piece of land means owning a bundle of rights which go with it—from agriculture to mining to housing development. Conservation easements allow landowners to release or retain any combination of those rights. According to INHF, the conservation easement usually doesn't change the land's use; instead it perpetuates the owner's current good stewardship. Meanwhile the owner may obtain substantial tax benefits.

Those seeking more information on the Loess Hills Voluntary Protection Initiative may contact Kyle Swanson at INHF, phone 1-800-475-1846 or check INHF's Website at [www.inhf.org](http://www.inhf.org)

### The President's Corner

The tree planting this year has been a very trying situation. No matter what crop a person was trying to plant this year, it seemed like the weather was against us. Hopefully the summer and fall will be better.

I have appointed Past President Gary Mensinger to chair the 1999 Nominating Committee for the Board of Directors. Give him a call if you are interested or know of someone who would serve on the IWOA Board. Remember that the health and effectiveness of IWOA depends vitally upon the quality of its leadership. Please see related article for more details.

The Field Day at the Loess Hills sounds fascinating. I hope we have a good turnout even though it is a long drive for some. Also Tom Woodruff and Larry Krotz are setting up a great annual meeting at Kent Park in the Coralville area. Be sure to attend.

We are still looking for future sites for annual meetings and field days. Please forward your ideas to me or to any one of the Board members.

See you at the field day!

Allen D. Manning, President, IWOA