

First Annual Iowa Trails Summit

Friday June 18, 2010

8:00 AM Doors open, registration and check-in begin, refreshments provided

8:45 AM Welcome and Introduction

9:00 AM **Planning a Healthy Community**

What are the challenges and benefits of planning trails to accommodate a wide range of user groups and the potential effects on traditional stakeholders and resources?

Moderator: Chuck Offenburger, Raccoon River Valley Trail

Taking Your Trail to the Next Level

Chuck Offenburger is a veteran Iowa journalist and bicyclist who lives and works at a farmstead outside Cooper, Iowa. For 16 years of his career as a Des Moines Register columnist, he was co-host of RAGBRAI, and he and his wife Carla were co-founders of the 1995 "Iowa 150 Bike Ride/A Sesquicentennial Expedition" across the U.S. Chuck now writes for the Iowa Farm Bureau's "Family Living" magazine, for his own Internet site www.Offenburger.com and writes and does radio commentary for KMA in Shenandoah. He and Carla were among the founders of the Raccoon River Valley Trail Association, which she serves as president and he serves as board member, lead writer and webmaster of www.raccoonrivervalleytrail.org.

Panelist: Tim Lane, Iowa Department of Public Health

What Box: Thoughts for Iowa's First Annual Trails Summit

Tim Lane has been involved in the public health field for over 30 years. As a Community Health Consultant with the Iowa Department of Public Health, his focus includes physical activity, the built environment, and policy development. Tim created FITNET, a daily electronic publication that is read in every state and around the world. He was a charter member of the National Association of Physical Activity Practitioners in Public Health, writes a regular column on health for Iowa Outdoor magazine, edits the Iowa Department of Public Health's Healthy Community magazine, and created the Ride Right campaign. The CDC relies on Tim for regular items for their publication designed for his colleagues on local initiatives and his consulting focus ranges from Ingersoll Ave in Des Moines to British Columbia. Tim has decades of experience working with the DOT, DED, and, more recently, Great Places. Tim is also known for co-founding Team Skunk.

Panelist: Mike Huinker, Decorah Bank and Trust

Trout Run Trail of Decorah: Holistic, Optimistic, Realistic

Mike Huinker is a Charter Board member of Trails of Winneshiek, the organization that started the Trout Run Trail project in June of 2000. Born and raised on a farm in the Decorah area, Mike is now a part-time hobby farmer residing on acreage on the south edge of Decorah. For the past 18 years Mike has been employed at Decorah Bank & Trust, a locally owned community bank. Mike is married to wife Kim, and has two daughters, Hannah & Lydia, both Luther College graduates living in the twin cities, and a son, Dane, who just graduated high school and will be attending Luther College in the fall. Mike's hobbies include virtually all things outdoors.

Panelist: Terry Durby, American Trails

Presentation topic TBA

Panelist: Alfred Bohling, Shive-Hattery

The Evolving Dimension of Trail Planning

Al earned his BLA from Iowa State University in 1967 and his MLA in 1969. He is the Community Development Team Leader for Shive-Hattery, an architectural engineering firm based in Cedar Rapids. Al has been a member of the Iowa Board of Landscape Architecture Examiners, a writer of the national Landscape Architecture Registration Exam (LARE), and a member of the Task Analysis Subject Matter Experts Committee for the Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Board and is a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects. He has served on the Louisa County Conservation Board and is co-founder and president of the Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation.



Morning Agenda

10:15 AM Morning break, refreshments provided

10:30 AM **Diversity and Accessibility**

Our communities face new challenges, not the least of which are the connection of our youth, elderly, and otherwise challenged populations to trails and places of natural beauty in the face of budget cuts that threaten both new and existing trails.

Moderator: Kimberly Anderson, Federal Highway Administration
National Initiative, The Federal Surface Transportation Program, FHWA Partnerships, Programs That Support Livability, Multitasking

Kimberly Anderson is the Civil Rights and Small Federal Program Manager for the Federal Highway Administration in the Iowa Division. Ms. Anderson serves as the manager for several Federal programs that receive Federal-aid; including the Recreational Trail Program, Transportation Enhancement Program, Safe Route to School Program and Urban Youth Corps. She also manages the Civil Rights Program which includes Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO), Title VI nondiscrimination and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). She is a native of Iowa.

Panelist: Dan Kleen, IOHVA/NOHVCC

Experiences While Traveling and Recreating As a Wheelchair User: What to Consider When Designing Trails and Parks to Include/Benefit People With Disabilities

Dan grew up on a farm near Pocahontas truly appreciating his time spent recreating with family and friends. In 1987 Dan was injured in a swimming accident but has stayed very active in all of his favorite recreational activities and still hunts, camps, rides ATVs, snowmobiles and rides two street motorcycles. Dan finds the most enjoyment in helping others with disabilities to get out and enjoy the great outdoors. He has been very involved with Iowa & National Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation for over 22 years, and is currently serving as Executive Director of the Iowa Off-Highway Vehicle Association, President of the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, is on advisory committees for All-Terrain Quad Council of Canada, Iowa Recreational Trails Program and Marshall University OHV Recreation Management Program and is on the steering committee for Iowa Motorsports Coalition.

Panelist: Mark Wyatt, Iowa Bicycle Coalition

Why Do People Call It a Bike Trail? Breaking Down Branded Exclusivity to Create Inclusion

Mark Wyatt is executive director of the Iowa Bicycle Coalition and has worked with the organization from its founding. Mark is a League Certified Instructor for bicycle safety, a National Safe Routes to School instructor, and is on the board of directors for the Alliance for Bicycling and Walking, a North American organization that grows and empowers state and local bicycle advocacy organizations. Mark is a daily bicycle commuter, an eight-time RAGBRAIer, mountain biker, and infrequent time trial racer. Outside of bicycling, Mark has worked as a paramedic in Iowa City for 18 years.

Panelist: Chad Thomas, ThinkFirst Iowa

Effectively Reaching Iowa's Students to Promote Healthy Lifestyles

Chad R. Thomas graduated from the University of Northern Iowa in 2003 with a bachelor's degree in Psychology and a minor in General Business Concepts. Since January of 2000, Thomas has been a VIP (Voice for Injury Prevention) presenter for the ThinkFirst Iowa and I Got Caught! Programs traveling the state of Iowa sharing his life-changing spinal cord injury with students. In August of 2004 he joined the program full-time as the Coordinator and in November 2007 began his current role as the Program Director. Thomas has been recognized by Iowa's Commissioner of Public Safety for service focused on traffic safety. In 2009, he received the VIP (Voice for Injury Prevention) of the Year Award from the ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation. He also received an Iowa Character Counts Honorable Mention in the Citizen of Character category.

Panelist: Kittie Weston-Knauer, KWK Enterprise

All I Want to Do Is Ride a Bike

Ms. Kittie D. Weston-Knauer is President and Executive Director of KWK Enterprise, Inc., an educational consulting firm. In 2007, she retired from Des Moines Public Schools after a 33 year career as a Title I reading teacher, developmental reading language arts teacher, vice-principal and principal. She is a passionate and devoted cyclist, and was instrumental in the rebirth of the sport of bicycle motocross in Iowa. She has raced throughout the country and parts of Canada since 1990. In 2007, she finished 7th in the world in the 45 and Over Women's Cruiser Class at BMX Worlds in Victoria, British Columbia. At 61, Ms. Weston-Knauer continues to be the oldest female in the United States who races BMX bikes in the National Bicycle League. This July, she will participate in her 27th RAGBRAI. She is a graduate of Drake University with a BS in Education (1970) and an MS in Secondary School Administration (1973). She and her husband are the parents of two adult sons.

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11:45 AM Buffet lunch at Rialto Cafeteria, UNI

1:30 PM Return to Lang Hall, socialization/networking

2:00 PM **Trail Planning, Development and Funding**

Innovation might be the key to trail development in Iowa. What are the key issues related to accommodating shared use trails and recreational facilities in the planning, development and funding process?

Moderator: Craig Markley, Iowa Department of Transportation
Iowa DOT Trail Planning Efforts and Funding Programs

Mr. Markley has been with the Iowa Department of Transportation, Office of Systems Planning for over twenty years, where he is currently serving as Transportation Planner. The office is responsible for long-range planning, traffic forecasting and administration of eight state and federal grant programs. Craig is the team leader for the grant program section.

Panelist: Lisa Hein, Iowa National Heritage Foundation
Developing "Trail Complexes"

Lisa Hein is the Program and Planning Director with the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and has been with the foundation since 1988. Her background is in Landscape Architecture with a degree from Iowa State University in 1984. Prior to working with the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, she was with the Ames Planning and Housing Department. Lisa works with community groups, volunteers, landowners and agencies in several aspects of land protection and trail development including land acquisition, conservation easements, community organizing, proposal writing and technical assistance. In her spare time she enjoys gardening, bicycling and is a skating coach with the Ames Figure Skating Club.

Panelist: Kevin Blanshan, Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments
Cedar Valley Trails-"More Than Just a Trail"

Kevin Blanshan has a Bachelors of Arts degree in Geography and a Masters degree in Public Policy from the University of Northern Iowa. Kevin is the Director of Transportation and Data Services with the Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments. He has held that position for fourteen years. He has extensive experience in developing transportation plans, transportation programming, bicycle/pedestrian planning, trail planning, project administration, and grant writing. Kevin has lived in the Cedar Valley area for 34 years.

Panelist: Carol Williams, Story County Conservation Board
Building Coalitions

Carol Williams has been a park ranger with Story County Conservation Board for over 20 years. Under the job title of Special Projects Ranger, Carol has had a chance to work with the Story County Trail Advisory Group and has written a number of grants for the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail, a 32-mile rail conversion trail through southern Story and Marshall Counties. Carol is a long-time bike rider and has participated in RAGBRAI for the last 12 years. She also uses the Ames trails system often for walking as well as riding.

Panelist: Mike Duffy, Iowa State University
Iowa Land Owner Demographics; Reasons for Owning the Land

Dr. Duffy is a Professor in the Department of Economics at Iowa State University. He is the Director of the Iowa State Beginning Farmer Center, Director for the Graduate Program in Sustainable Agriculture and is an Extension Economist in farm management. Dr. Duffy is currently responsible for the annual land value survey, cost of crop production estimates, Iowa farm costs and returns publication and is state leader for the Extension Farm Financial Planning Program. His research activities include farm transitioning, land valuation and ownership, determinants of farm profitability, small farms, soil conservation, integrated pest management, switchgrass and other bioenergy sources and sustainable agriculture.

Afternoon Agenda



3:15 PM Afternoon break, refreshments provided

3:30 PM Multi-Use and Shared Trails

What are the keys to attracting and managing the diverse needs of different user groups?

Moderator: Pat Boddy, Iowa Department of Natural Resources

From Gateway to Wilderness: Iowa's Future Water Trails

As Deputy Director of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Pat Boddy brings more than 25 years experience in the fields of water resources, parks and land management and communication management. Immediately prior to joining the DNR, Boddy served as the director of the Polk County Conservation Board (PCCB). In the 90's Boddy was president of Boddy Media Group. Her firm specialized in communications and training for clients ranging from local non-profit organizations to major Fortune 500 publishing companies. Boddy earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri - Columbia, a bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering and a master's degree in water resources at Iowa State University, and a Certificate of Public Management from Drake University. She is a licensed professional engineer in Iowa.

Panelist: Liz Garst, Whiterock Conservancy

The Soft Trail Project at Whiterock Conservancy

Liz Garst is a founder, volunteer and Board member for Whiterock Conservancy in West central Iowa. She serves on the Natural Resources Commission of the Iowa DNR and the Coon Rapids Development Group and she also manages farming and banking businesses for her family.

Panelist: Bill Paynter, Iowa Horse Council

Presentation Topic TBA

Panelist: Francis Boggus, Iowa Great Places

Comparing the Multi-Use and Shared Trails Developments in Wisconsin and Iowa-Different Approaches to a Common Goal

Francis Boggus has been the coordinator of the Great Places Program for the past three years. This community development program in the Department of Cultural Affairs has as its mission to bring together state resources in a unified way to assist participant communities in implementing their developed vision. An Omaha native, Francis Boggus is a graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in history and political science, with an education emphasis and the University Of San Francisco School of Law. He has been an active social science teacher for six years and has practiced law for 17 years. He has also spent time as an executive recruiter in the financial institutions field for Midwest banks, recruiting top level executives for senior banking and trust positions. He is a self taught planner who has always read and studied much of the planning materials and sources on city and regional planning. His varied experiences have allowed him to look at place planning in a holistic way. He has resided in Iowa for the past 11 years.

Panelist: Ryan Hanser, Hanser & Associates

In the Dirt: Lessons Learned From Digging In

Ryan Hanser is senior vice president at Hanser & Associates, a public relations firm in West Des Moines serving governments, recreation facilities and other clients. He is president of Central Iowa Trail Association, an all-volunteer, non-profit affiliate of the International Mountain Bicycling Association focused on creating sustainable, natural trails; the 12-year-old organization works with city, county, state and private land owners to manage responsible outdoor recreation. He gets outdoors with his wife and two young sons at every opportunity.

4:45 PM Closing Remarks

6:00 PM Join us at Gateway Park in Cedar Falls for a BBQ Party! Meet other Summit attendees, planners and speakers in a more casual setting. Pre-registration is not required, cost is \$10. We'll see you there!