



MNACCP

Minnesota Association of
Conservation Professionals

June 2013

MNACCP Update:

As some of you may have noticed, we did not hold our Annual Meeting this spring. The Board did manage to have a Special Meeting in April at the Brainerd Arboretum. A new President, Ann Geisen, was elected, as well as a President-elect, Paul Stolen. We have begun planning for the 2014 Annual Conference - *Advocacy and Resource Management* - and are confident that last year's scheduling and communication difficulties are resolved.



Photo courtesy of Chris Kellner

Seeking Additional Board Members!

Have you been waiting for the opportunity to join the MNACCP Board? Here is your chance! We are currently seeking two junior directors, as well as a Treasurer. Please send nominations to contact@mnacp.org

Our Current Board Members:

President	Ann Geisen
President Elect	Paul Stolen
Past President	Anna Lipenga
Secretary	Beau Liddell
Treasurer (until Dec 30)	Todd Holman
Webmaster	Jack Lauer
Senior Directors	Bill Faber
	Paul Ojanen
	Dave Pauly
	Nicholas Snavelly
Junior Directors	Willis Mattison
	Jeanine Vorland
	vacant
	vacant

Visit our website to keep your
Membership current.

Fill out and return this form:

<http://mnacp.org/membership/>

\$15 per year

The Minnesota Association of Conservation Professionals promotes science-based stewardship of natural resources and supports the active community of current, former, and aspiring conservation professionals.

PO Box 174
Little Falls, MN 56345-0174
contact@mnacp.org
www.mnacp.org

A New Direction?

Paul Stolen made a *proposal* to take MNACP in a new direction: Make it an Internet-based organization. In other words, a "virtual community" of conservation professionals. MNACP volunteer activities would be focused on communication via the Internet rather than via annual meetings. He suggested this proposal be discussed at next year's 2014 annual meeting. This would be a significant and ambitious modification of MNACP.

He made this proposal based on asking the question: What do MNACP volunteers spend most of their time on, and what is the result? Largely, it is planning and conducting the annual meeting. It follows that we are assuming our appeal as an organization—the "face" we put forth to our potential membership and the public—is embodied in the annual meeting. He asks; "Is this enough? Does that fulfill our mission? Is our membership growing?" He believes MNACP is exceedingly important—but it needs a much better strategy to make it work, and a strategy that leads to increased membership and focused participation.

The proposal is that a well-designed Internet-based organization could accomplish not only the same activities, but also more easily add activities and make MNACP more interesting and functional. The proposal is based on the increasing sophistication of Internet tools as well as massive increases in use and reliance on the Internet. As a "virtual community," MNACP volunteers could work from home on their own schedules. Increased capabilities and ease of volunteer work would increase active membership in MNACP and attract creative people eager to meet the challenge of creating something new.

What are your thoughts about this? Please share! Let us know at contact@mnacp.org

MFWEA and MNACP Records Clean Up

We are trying to clean up over 50 years of records. Do you have old MFWEA documents hiding in your basement or attic that you want to get rid of? We are electronically archiving important documents and discarding the rest. Please contact Beau (b.liddell@charter.net) or Ann (waterlily726@hotmail.com) if you would like to assist at the next Board meeting in sorting or if you have records to pass along.

Thanks!