



# Annual Meeting 2007

~ Promoting river safety, education, and recreation ~

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Iowa Whitewater Coalition celebrated the beginning of its fifth year by hosting an inaugural 'Reconnecting the Rivers' annual dinner and meeting on February 8, 2007, at House of Thai in Urbandale, Iowa. More than 70 attendees enjoyed an evening of fellowship, dining and a sharing of the stories that marked efforts of the past years and goals for the coming year.

The evening began with a social hour, continuous slide show, and viewing of several displays. Dinner was served buffet style with a good variety of wonderful Thai dishes.

During a presentation Lyle Danielson reviewed the past year that included activities supporting community events, paddler instruction, and advocacy for environmental protection and dam hazard remediation.

Efforts for IWC's Reconnecting the Rivers initiative during 2006 included:

- Support of a feasibility study evaluating whitewater recreation options in Des Moines
- Reprinted 10,000 Minnesota DNR 'Drowning Machine' brochures
- Grant of \$2,160 to Story County Conservation for engineering dam modifications in Story City
- Purchase and installation of lowhead dam signage for Boone and Fraser dams
- Participation in planning and construction of a portage trail at the Boone Waterworks dam.
- Hosting the first annual Iowa Rivers Revival conference attended by more than 90 river enthusiasts
- Outreach at community events around the state to display the lowhead dam model and raise dam hazard awareness
- Recognition of a community improvement grant from Prairie Meadows that supported the RTR efforts.

IWC recognized G. David Hurd for becoming its first life-time member.

Lyle highlighted river stewardship efforts of the Clean Rivers Team along 113 miles of the Raccoon River. IWC recognized financial contributors and Don Propst for leading the initiative.

IWC plans for 2007 include:

- Continued river stewardship efforts
- Distribution of 'Drowning Machine' brochures
- Kayak paddling instruction clinics
- Outreach efforts, especially a statewide dam awareness symposium
- Support low head dam modification legislation in the 2007 Iowa Session
- Construction of a low impact river access at Commerce Ledges
- Sponsorship of Iowa Rivers Revival II and Project AWARE.

Lyle encouraged everyone to be involved in a vary of ways and thanked them for showing interest in the community by attending the event.

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