



**National Association for Interpretation**  
*Buffalo Bull: Heartland Region*  
Newsletter

Fall 2016  
Volume 28, Number 3

### In This Issue

Director's Notes  
National Conference  
Regional Workshop  
Media Updates  
Around the Region  
Contact NAI



The National Association for Interpretation Heartland Region membership consists of interpreters from state parks, county agencies, museums, zoos, park districts, recreation facilities, and many other public and private organizations from Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota,

### ***Bob's Bombinations***

**By Bob Carter, Heartland Region Director**

Another autumn, another election. No, not that one. The NAI elections. As you begin reading this our annual elections are wrapping up. On the ballots this year were the NAI President, the Vice-President for Administration, and two national board positions. For the Heartland Region we had Director and Treasurer positions up. But you already knew that, because you voted, right? Good. Now, to get on with my point for this issue of the Bull: New Stuff.

**New Stuff #1:** In the coming weeks there will be some changes coming to the regional website. Your Regional Board and I have had several discussions about ways to improve the information on the site and one of those will be a regional time line developed by Deputy Director Laura Kohn (Hey Laura!) This is not a historical time line but an administrative one running from January 1 to December 31 and listing all of the important dates and deadlines for the region. The board felt that having a quick reference available would benefit not only the board, but all of the membership. This time line, currently labeled the "Regional Calendar," will be a living document and will change as necessary to meet our collective needs.

**New Stuff #2:** Speaking of the regional website, I want to give a big "Thank You!" to Trish Greninger for the job she's done with that. Also on the regional website, we will be expanding the regional workshop page. There will be more information about past and future regionals

Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois,  
Manitoba, and Nunavut.

Our mission is to inspire  
leadership and excellence to  
advance heritage interpretation  
as a profession.

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## Quick Links

[National Association for  
Interpretation](#)

[NAI Heartland Region](#)

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### Submit to Buffalo Bull!

All are welcome to submit to  
Buffalo Bull. Please read our  
[publishing policy](#) prior to  
submission.

### Submission Deadlines:

Winter Issue      December 1  
Spring Issue      March 1

but to learn more details you will have to go look it over for yourself after we have made the changes. There have to be some surprises, after all.

**New Stuff #3:** The structure of the Regional Leadership Council is changing slightly. Lewis Major, our long standing Finance/Fundraising Chair, has stepped down from that position. I want to express my gratitude to Lew for all his dedication and the creativity he brought to that position for so many years. Lew and I, and the board, discussed the role of that position in light of the current financial structure of NAI and have decided to replace the Finance/Fundraising Chair with another position for which there seems to be a more immediate need. The description of that new position will be posted on the website along with the other changes.

**New Stuff #4:** Jeff Boland, our Awards Committee Chair has indicated that he would like to let someone else take over the reins in that position. I want to extend my gratitude to Jeff for the excellent job he has done for us and also thank him for "hanging in there" until we find a replacement for him. So, that is officially an open position and if you are interested please e-mail me directly.

**New Stuff Final:** By the time you all are reading this, the katydids in my area should be in full voice, your regional board will be holding its summer-fall meeting, the autumnal equinox will be upon us, and a new craft brew pub will be opening across the Illinois River from me. Woohoo!

"See" you all when the snow flies,

Bob Carter  
Heartland Region Director

[Return to Top](#)

## 2016 NAI National Conference

### Nature Protection, Cultural Connection

November 8-12, 2016  
Corpus Christi, Texas

### [Conference Website](#)

Throughout The Texas  
Coastal Bend dynamic  
forces are at play creating  
an environment that is unsurpassed. In the midst of commerce and  
industry, conservation efforts abound, preserving the area's beauty and  
natural wonder. The history of the Coastal Bend has cultivated a rich



Summer Issue                  June 1  
Fall Issue                      September 1

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[m](#)

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heritage that is reflected in a diversity of cultures celebrated by the people of Corpus. Past and present are ever united, serving as the foundation on which beliefs and traditions grow.

Corpus Christi offers the best in Texas coastal experiences, the perfect place for NAI to gather, share, learn, and explore our past, present and future.

**Registration open through October 17!**

[Return to Top](#)

## **Save the Date: 2017 Heartland Region Workshop**

**"The Future is Now...The Rest is History"**

2017 Heartland Region Workshop

April 4-9, 2017

Deadwood, South Dakota

More information to come soon! Check the [workshop webpage](#) frequently for updates.

[Return to Top](#)

## **Heartland Region Media**

Find out more about workshops, scholarships, mini-grants, and the Heartland Region in general! Please note the sites below now reflect our embracing of "Heartland Region" in place of "Region 5" and update your records accordingly.

- **Website:** <http://naiheartlandregion.weebly.com/>
- **Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/NAIHeartland>
- **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/NAIHeartlandRegion](http://www.facebook.com/NAIHeartlandRegion)

[Return to Top](#)

## ***Around the Region:***

## **Workshops, Resources, and Announcements**

### **NAI CERTIFICATION and CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **Certified Interpretive Guide (CIG) Training Workshops**

The Certified Interpretive Guide program is designed for anyone who delivers interpretive programs to the public. It combines both the

theoretical foundations of the profession with practical skills in delivering quality interpretive programming to visitors.

### **Lincoln Park Zoo**

Chicago, Illinois

October 17-21, 2016

For more information visit the [workshop website](#) or contact Becky Brazzale at [bbrazzale@lpzoo.org](mailto:bbrazzale@lpzoo.org) or (312) 742-2061.

### **Coaching Interpreters Workshop**

October 26-28, 2016

Lincoln Park Zoo

Chicago, Illinois

[Click here for the Workshop Website](#)

Have you ever wondered how to be a better coach for your staff? Are you looking for new coaching tools such as language and methods to review your interpreters? Do you struggle with the difference between coaching and supervision? If so, this new 3-day workshop is for you! Building upon the requests from our membership for more management skills training, NAI offers this course to give you a chance to both learn and hone your coaching skills. During this course, participants will study and practice skills including how to review a program, coaching styles and preferences and giving verbal feedback. Throughout the offering, participants will take part in practicums designed to put new skills into practice, including coaching live interpreters.

### **The Training Cookbook: Recipes for Training Success**

Zoos, Wildlife Parks, and Aquaria InterpNET Conference

October 12, 2016

Online. [More information can be found here.](#)

### **Certified Interpretive Host Train-the-Trainers Workshop**

Looking for training that combines non-formal interpretation skills with customer service? Do you want to train/certify staff and others on behalf of NAI? If so, this is the course for you!

### **NAI Webinars**

Don't forget about NAI's webinars! [Check them out here!](#)

## **EXTERNAL WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES, and PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **Master Naturalist Fall Training**

University of Illinois Extension

Sept. 8 - November 17

Thursdays, from 1:00-5:00 pm

Winnebago County, IL  
[Click here for more information.](#)

**Iowa Association of Naturalists**  
November 2-4, 2016  
Fossil and Prairie Park and Center  
Rockford, Iowa  
[More information here.](#)

**Spreading our Wings with Science Standards:  
Pollinators, Monarchs, and Conservation Education**  
Iowa Conservation Education Coalition  
February 3-4, 2017  
Springbrook Conservation Education Center  
Guthrie Center, Iowa  
[More information here.](#)

Save the Date:

**Midwest Environmental Education Conference**

October 14-17, 2017

Q Center

St. Charles, Illinois

From climate change and local/regional environmental advocacy, to grant writing, NGSS, and the facts about GMOs...MEEC 2017 will provide an all-inclusive experience of local to global EE! Embrace the opportunity to engage with captivating regional and national speakers, diverse concurrent sessions, exhilarating off-site field studies, meaningful workshops, and lively social gatherings! Call for Proposals and Call for Exhibitors coming early 2017.

**RESOURCES**

**EEAI Mini-Grants**

Do you have a project that would education your community about an environmental issue? Do you have a curriculum that will engage your participants in learning about an ecological concept? Can you provide an experience that will help students increase their understanding of the natural world? EEA mini-grants are awarded each year for up to \$350 per proposal. Application deadline is October 31. For more information, visit <http://www.eeai.net/mini-grants.html> or email [Teresa\\_wisniewski@yahoo.com](mailto:Teresa_wisniewski@yahoo.com).

**Looking for a job or internship?** Don't forget to check out these great resources from NAI and Region 5!

[NAI's Career Center](#) (National Office)

[NAI Heartland Region Job Board](#)

[SEEK](#) (Minnesota)

[MyCountyParks](#) (Iowa; seasonal and full-time)

## **Call for Articles: InterpNEWS**

If you are interested in submitted articles and/or research to this free, international heritage interpretation e-magazine, please contact John Veverka (CIT, CIP, NAI Fellow) at [jvainterp@aol.com](mailto:jvainterp@aol.com). [Click here for more information on InterpNEWS.](#)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Congratulations to the 2016 EEAI Award Recipients! Susan Dombro, Forest Preserves of Cook County, was named Non-Formal Educator of the Year. John Murray, Clinton Rosette Middle School, was named Formal Educator of the Year. [Read more about these two inspiring educators here.](#)

[Return to Top](#)

## **Contact NAI Heartland Region Leadership**

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### **State & Province Representatives**

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*Nunavut: Vacant*

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[Return to Top](#)

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