



**IAA board selects 1988
symposium topic of
"Biological Pest Control"**

"Biological Pest Control: Contributions to a Sustainable Agriculture," was selected as the topic for the 1988 IAA Symposium by the Institute for Alternative Agriculture Board at its September 1 meeting, announces Board President Jim Lukens. The organizing committee for the March 1 symposium includes Richard Harwood of Winrock International, George Papavizas and Richard Ridgway of USDA's Agricultural Research Service, George Templeton of the University of Arkansas, and Jerry DeWitt of Iowa State University. Preliminary plans call for both overview presentations and detailed case studies on such topics as pesticide effects and the economics and future prospects for biological controls. Further details will be announced later this fall.

At its fourth biannual Board meeting, held at the Meadowcreek Project near Fox, Arkansas, the IAA Board also elected three new members, who will be seated at its annual meeting in March, 1988. New members are Robert Blake, Senior Fellow at the International Institute for Environment and Development; Katherine L. Clancy, Associate Professor of Human Nutrition, Syracuse University; and Jerry DeWitt, Associate Director, Iowa Co-operative Extension Service.

In further business, the IAA Board reviewed the Institute's short- and long-range program priorities and approved the 1988 operating budget. Following the day-long meeting, some 25 guests from both public and private agricultural and environmental research, education, and advocacy organizations in Arkansas met with IAA Board members at a reception and dinner hosted by the Meadowcreek Project. Jim Lukens, IAA President, is

agronomist and farm manager at the Project. The Board meeting was dedicated to the memory of Board member Mrs. L. M. C. Smith, who died on August 29 in Portland, Maine.

**IAA board member, Mrs.
Lawrence M. C. Smith, dies
in Portland, Maine**

Mrs. L. M. C. Smith of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, died on August 29, 1987, in Portland, Maine. She had been spending the summer at her beloved Wolfe's Neck Farm near Freeport, Maine. Mrs. Smith had served faithfully and well on the Institute's Board of Directors since its founding in 1983 and a year ago had hosted the Board's biannual meeting at Wolfe's Neck Farm.

Mrs. Smith was a strong supporter of the Institute's goals and programs, but her commitment to alternative agriculture went far beyond these activities. In 1984, for example, Mrs. Smith donated Wolfe's Neck Farm, a 600-acre organic beef operation, to the University of Southern Maine. Her purpose was the fostering of conservation, land preservation, and organic agriculture, goals shared by her husband, the late Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith. The University uses the property for many educational programs, including Maine history and art, and as a site for institutes and seminars. The University of Maine--Maine's land grant university--also uses the farm for scientific studies of alternative production methods.

The Institute's Board and staff wish to recognize the many positive ways in which Mrs. Smith helped further the Institute for Alternative Agriculture. We also wish to acknowledge her overall contributions to a more humane and sustainable world. She will be deeply missed.

**IAA co-sponsors rural
community conferences**

Two conferences on New Directions for Rural Communities with attention to low-input and diversified agriculture as well as community resource management are scheduled for late fall in Bozeman, Montana (October 20-22) and Memphis, Tennessee (November 19-21). Workshop sessions will help participants devise strategies for cutting costs by reducing inputs of fertilizers, pesticides, water, and energy; identify alternative crops and markets; and examine ways to build rural economies.

The National Center for Appropriate Technology, the Extension Services of Montana, the University of Tennessee, and Tennessee State University are co-hosts of the conferences; the IAA is a co-sponsor. A registration fee of \$45 includes materials and meals. To register or for more information, contact NCAT, 815 15th Street, NW, Suite 938, Washington, DC 20005 (202) 347-9193.

**Alternative farmers sought for
third-world project**

Farmers involved in alternative agriculture are being sought for a volunteer farmer-to-farmer overseas program sponsored by the University of Arizona, Tucson. To date, U.S. farmers have traveled to Costa Rica, Haiti, Rwanda and other sites. No salary is offered, but expenses are paid. For information, contact Thoric Cederstrom, Farmer-to-Farmer Program, Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.