Our spring field day this year is going to be held in the area of the Amana Colonies. The Amana Society, Inc. is a legacy corporation encompassing a range of businesses that produce handcrafted furniture, unique woolens, authentic German foods, livestock, crops, energy production, forest products, and community services.

The current staff of Amana Forestry consists of two foresters, Tim Krause who has been there since 1998 and Larry Gnewibow who has been there since 1982. Their intention is to manage and control all aspects of lands belonging to the corporation including burning prairies, planting trees and harvesting timber with the least amount of impact.

The focus of this field day will be learning how the staff of Amana Forestry manage the 7,000+ acres of timber reserve (out of 10,000 acres of forest). Topics will include planting, TSI, burning, control of invasive species, and some history of the property. We will also visit a small sawmill with a kiln on the property. Lunch will be held at the Millstream Brau Haus, pay as you go. We will hold a very short meeting at this point. Those who wish to stay longer will be invited to visit the furniture shop. Time frame: 9:00-1:00 (without the furniture shop).

Schedule:

Check in/Register 8:30-9:00 at 1300 220th Trail, Amana, IA 52203 (this is the High Amana Office)

9:00 Leave for an old crop field along the Iowa River that has been planted with soft maple several times with no success, but now has many sycamore and swamp white oak growing.

Visit the sawmill . . . the kind most of us would love to have on our own property.

12:00 Lunch – pay as you go at the Millstream Brau Haus
Short meeting – please consider becoming an officer of this group.

1:00 For those who would like to stay longer, we’ll visit the furniture shop. It won’t be functioning, but you could see the products.

There is no registration fee, but please indicate your intention to attend so we can plan accordingly.

Contact Cindy Heisdorffer: 563-940-3654 or iowa.walnut.council@gmail.com