



# WETLAND'S GAZETTE

Volume 1, Issue 4  
December 2005

## **Mead Education/Office Building Open House**

**By Tom Meier, Project Manager, Mead Wildlife Area**

The sounds of praise, oohs and ahhs and laughter were heard throughout the Stanton W. Mead Education and Visitor Center by 500-600 people who attended the Open House on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. What a grand day and what a success!! The Mead staff would like to thank all those involved in working on "Project Mead". We especially appreciated everyone who helped make the visitors feel welcome which reflects the support and generosity of our neighbors and the surrounding community that we have experienced for decades at the Mead. From the members of the Marshfield Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited who braved the cold weather to cook the meat and the donations of delicious homemade cakes to the members of the Friends' group who welcomed visitors, the support continues to help create a feeling of commonality, purpose and hope for the future. The presence of Ruth Schuette and George Mead at the festivities represents their true dedication to the center and to the future of our educational efforts. Where would we be without the Friends and those individuals and organizations that support this great place?

The presentations by architect, Tom Brown, on the renewable energy features of the building and Mike Gross, retired professor at UWSP, who discussed the people and history of the Little Eau Pleine's Valley, were well received by those attending and laid the groundwork for what this great area was, has become and can be in the future.

This year, over 2400 students have attended classes at the Mead or involved in outreach programs with more expected this next spring. We feel that educating young people about the environment and wildlife resources is an important component for the future and we hope to continue to instill their feeling of ownership and stewardship of the land.

Thanks to all involved for making the Center a reality!



Friends of Mead/McMillan welcome visitors and encourage new members to join the group in supporting the Mead/McMillan Wildlife Areas at the October 22<sup>nd</sup> Mead Education and Visitor Center Open House.  
(photo courtesy of Richard Clouse)

## **Friends of Mead- McMillan**

### **Officers**

- *President—Bart Hobson  
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- *Vice-President—Kent Hall  
Stevens Point 344-8081*
- *Secretary—Dennis Dieringer  
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- *Treasurer – Sue Hall  
Steven's Point 344-8081*

### **Directors:**

- *Dan Belter*
- *Beth Clouse*
- *Randy Cutler*
- *Dennis Dieringer*
- *Kent Hall*
- *Sue Hall*
- *Bart Hobson*
- *Nancy Stevenson*
- *Bob Trembl*

### **DNR Staff on board:**

- *Tom Meier, Superintendent  
Mosinee 693-7336*
- *Brian Peters  
Stevens Point 344-7924*

### **Editor:**

- *Dave Grabski*



## **The Web Site is Coming, The Web Site is Coming!**

**Article by Jessica Huxmann**

Congratulations to everyone who has contributed to the new Stanton W. Mead Education and Visitor Center. Guest numbers are expected to soar over the coming months and years at the Mead. With these increased numbers will come requests for more information about the wildlife area. How can these thousands of inquiring minds be satisfied? Where will we find a cheap and effective method of delivering updates on the goings-on at Mead to potential visitors? How will the general public be made aware that the Mead is ready and open for business? The answer to all of these questions is simple: a web site.

Though not everyone has access to computers or to the Internet, web sites are an increasingly popular method of providing information to the public about any topic. The George W. Mead Wildlife Area has had limited exposure on the World Wide Web. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) web site includes a few snippets of information about the Mead, but the text is buried deep within the pages of the DNR site and is difficult to find. By creating a web site specifically for the Mead, Web surfers will be able to use common search engines, or the direct web site address, to locate the main Mead web site. From there, the possibilities are endless. Pages on the Mead site will eventually include everything from natural history and geology to habitat management and listings of special events. Contact information, maps, colorful photographs, and links to other interesting web sites will also be included.

I am a graduate student in the Master of Science in Natural Resources program at the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point, and I am poised to develop the new Mead Wildlife Area web site. Not only the creation of a web site for the Mead, but I will also research to determine precisely what information Mead visitors want to see on the web site including conducting a survey of users of the Mead to gather their opinions about a web site and holding discussion sessions with users of the Mead to brainstorm web site ideas and thoughts. In the end, I hope to deliver an outstanding example of a web site to the Mead Wildlife Area through which the public may collect the information it seeks about this wonderful property.

This project is a work-in-progress and your input is greatly appreciated. Please visit the current version of the Mead's web site at [www.meadwildlife.org](http://www.meadwildlife.org) and fill out the survey to help me understand what you want to see in a web site for the Mead. Check back often to see how the web site changes as I update the site to meet the needs of Mead's audiences.

You can also email me at [jhuxm121@uwsp.edu](mailto:jhuxm121@uwsp.edu) with suggestions/comments/questions. I look forward to hearing from you! Together, we will create a web site for the Mead that is beautiful in form and function!



*Mike Gross presents Open House visitors with a brief history of the Little Eau Pleine's Valley at the new Mead Education and Visitor Center Open House October 22, 2005.*

*(photo courtesy of Richard Clouse)*



## **The Mead Dog Trial and Training Grounds**

### **Article by Ken M. Blomberg – MGA President**

In 1988, a section of abandoned farmland on the eastern edge of the Mead Wildlife Area was designated a Class 1 Dog Trial and Training Grounds by legislative rule under chapter NR 17.01 and became one of about eight grounds across the state. Located west of County Highway “O” and north of the Little Eau Pleine River, this area is designed to provide participating groups and individuals an opportunity to train dogs and hold tests and competitive trials.

The Mead Grounds Association (MGA) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are charged with managing the grounds within the scope of a five-year plan and the intent under which the grounds were established. Permits for training and events are issued by the DNR, while scheduling of all organized activities is taken care of through the Grounds Association. At present, the area is comprised of 3 fields, forest fringe and open water wetland. Developments to date include 3 parking areas, a shelter building, a toilet facility, water site improvements and walking trails. In addition, a handicap accessible duck blind was built by MGA members at the water site.

Membership in the MGA consists of all sporting dog field trial and hunt test clubs that use the Mead dog trial, test and training grounds. Each member club must be in good standing with the Wisconsin Association of Field Trial Clubs (WAFTC) and a board of directors made up of delegates from each member club and elected officers conduct the management of the MGA.

The MGA’s mission states that the, “Management of the area was designed to encourage, through training, the use of dogs in sport hunting and to allow through tests or trials, aspects of the art of dog training and obedience.” MGA members also hold yearly hunting dog seminars, youth hunts and other public activities to generate more use of the facility. While organized clubs tend to use the facilities on weekends, individual use of the training area on weekdays is becoming more common and is encouraged. The area is also a popular area for birdwatchers, berry pickers and hunters.

So the next time you’re exploring the east end of the Mead, check out this multi-use area. There’s a road traversing the property that accesses the fields and water site and numerous walking trails have been developed and are maintained.

Members of the Marshfield Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited grill food for guests at the Mead Education and Visitor Center Open House October 22, 2005.  
(photo courtesy of Richard Clouse)





## **Fund Raising and Donation Summary**

**by Kent Hall, board member, Friends of Mead/McMillan Association**

During and since our "Open House" on October 22, the Friends have experienced a substantial growth in income of \$4,627 (net of about \$4,200) . Membership income has totaled \$1,415; t-shirts: \$662; and tiles; \$2,500. And we have gained 41 new members during this time span! Patron Members include Chris Heikenen and Sally Overholt.

One-paw tiles were purchased by William J. & Marian Seagren Hall, Floyd & Pat Hamus, Don Lutz, Rena Maguire, Dallas & Edith Pankowski & Bill & Lois Tufte. A two-paw tile was purchased by Richard & Jan Doxtator.

One donation has been received since our Open House. It was that of Walter Krause who donated a large number of Native American artifacts found on the Mead property over the past 50 years. Walter will receive a 2-paw tile to recognize his donation.

A donation form for memberships & tile/brick purchases is found in this newsletter.

## **Annual Meeting Notice**

**by Bart Hobson, President, Friends of Mead/McMillan Association**

A year ago, January 15, 2005, the Friends of Mead-McMillan met in the garage at the Mead for our annual meeting. The turnout was a large enough that we could no longer meet in my kitchen and all of us who were there can remember the urgency with which we raced through the agenda before we got too cold in that under heated space. As they say, what a difference a year makes. The Mead education and administration building then was only a concrete slab covered with straw upon which rested a lot of dreams, and now it's a magnificent reality in which we can hold this year's annual meeting in style!

Saturday, January 7, 2006, at 9:30 AM, the Friends of Mead-McMillan invite all current members and all who are interested in becoming members to join us at the Mead. We will present a report on progress at both the Mead and McMillan Wildlife Areas, our Treasurer's report, our fund-raising report, and we will hold elections for the Board of Directors and its officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary).

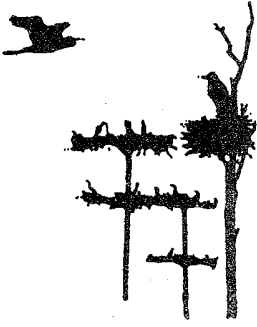
Please plan to join us for this celebratory annual gathering and share our happiness at the great events of 2005 and the years to come.



Architect Tom Brown and George W. Mead discuss energy features of the new Mead Education and Visitor Center during the Open House October 22, 2005.

(photo courtesy of Richard Clouse)





# An Invitation To Membership

The Friends of Mead-McMillan Association, Inc., is a private, non-profit corporation dedicated to the purpose of assisting with wildlife, interpretive and management activities at the Mead-McMillan State Wildlife Area. This organization is comprised of individuals from many different backgrounds interested in increasing public understanding, appreciation, support and enjoyment of wildlife and their habitats.

Your annual membership helps support:

- Wildlife education for over 2000 area youth, annually
- The function & maintenance of the new Stanton W. Mead Education and Visitor Center
- Wildlife management practices on 30,000 acres
- Updated maps and information on Mead-McMillan Wildlife Area
- Maintenance of Mead and McMillan Bike Trails

If you would like to become a member of the Friends of Mead-McMillan, or purchase a personalized tile or brick, please fill in the form below and return it with your tax deductible contribution.

Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____	<b>Personalized Donations:</b> Tiles in Building: <i>See Reverse Side</i> \$ 250: One Paw \$ 500: Two Paws \$1000: Four Paws (With Logo Option) Bricks In Amphitheatre: <i>See Reverse Side</i> \$ 100: 4" x 8" \$ 250: 8" x 8" \$ 500: 16" x 8"
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<b>Check appropriate membership option:</b> _____ Individual/Family: \$20 _____ Business/Corporate: \$100 _____ Patron: \$250	Membership Amount: \$ _____ Tile Amount: \$ _____ Brick Amount: \$ _____ Additional Amount: \$ _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____
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Make your tax deductible check payable to: Friends of Mead-McMillan Assoc., Inc.

Mail to: Friends of Mead-McMillan Assoc., Inc.  
 S2148 County S  
 Milladore, WI 54454

For Information Call: Kent Hall at 344-8081 (Friends) or Brian Peters at 457-6771 (DNR)

*Thanks for your support; your renewal date will be placed on your newsletter label.*

# Personalized Tiles

All tiles are 12" x 12" and are placed in the foyer of the building (dozens of tiles are in place and can be investigated for quality & composition). Lines are a maximum of 17 characters.

One Paw: \$250, Maximum of 2 lines

Two Paws: \$500, Maximum of 3 lines

Three Paws: \$1,000, Maximum of 4 lines or corporate logo (add \$100 for logo)

<p><b>Tile Inscription:</b></p> <p>Line 1: _____</p> <p>Line 2: _____</p> <p>Line 3: _____</p> <p>Line 4: _____</p>
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<p><b>Tile Inscription:</b></p> <p>Line 1: _____</p> <p>Line 2: _____</p> <p>Line 3: _____</p> <p>Line 4: _____</p>
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# Personalized Bricks



<p><b>Brick Inscription: 4" x 8": \$100</b></p> <p>Line 1: _____</p> <p>Line 2: _____</p> <p>Line 3: _____</p>	<p><b>Brick Inscription: 8" x 8": \$250</b></p> <p>Line 1: _____</p> <p>Line 2: _____</p> <p>Line 3: _____</p> <p>Line 4: _____</p> <p>Line 5: _____</p> <p>Line 6: _____</p>
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## **“Capital for the Day” Visits Mead Wildlife Area**

**Article by Ken M. Blomberg**

As part of the Governor’s “Capital for the Day” events in central Wisconsin, Department of Natural Resources Secretary Scott Hassett and State Representative Louis Molepske went hunting for grouse in early November on the Mead with area bird hunters. “Local hunters” Ken Blomberg of Junction City, Craig Zandi of Dancy and their bird dogs, assisted in locating two grouse and seven woodcock during a one-hour hunt. Secretary Hassett bagged a grouse, while Representative Molepske downed a woodcock. Joining the hunting party was DNR West Central Regional Director, Scott Humrickhouse, George W. Mead of Consolidated Paper and several newspaper and television reporters.

Blomberg and Zandi “showcased” the habitat on and around the Mead Dog Trial and Training Grounds, as well as an area along the Little Eau Pleine River that’s been designated as a new ruffed grouse, woodcock and other forest wildlife demonstration area. This project has been approved for funding through the Ruffed Grouse Society (RGS) and will be used for future habitat management workshops for landowners.



Photo to Left

DNR Regional Director Scott Humrickhouse (from left), Ken Blomberg with “Dakota”, and Representative Louis Molepske during a grouse hunt at the Mead Wildlife Area during “Capital for the Day” at the Mead Wildlife Area.

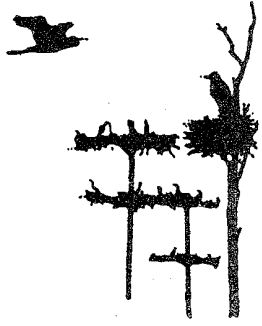
(photo courtesy of Jim Lee)

Photo to Right

Representative Louis Molepske (left), Ken Blomberg (center), and DNR Regional Director Scott Humrickhouse discuss strategy during their grouse hunt at the Mead in early November 2005.

(photo courtesy of Jim Lee)





**Friends of  
Mead/McMillan  
Association, Inc.  
S2148 County S  
Milladore, WI 54454**

Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5

**Wetland's Gazette**



Audience listening to Architect Tom Brown describe the building process and renewable energy features of the new Mead Education and Visitor Center during the Open House October 22, 2005. (photo courtesy of Richard Clouse)