



Manager's Minute

Craig Ziolkowski

As we move well into the second half of 2022, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on all of the wonderful things happening at Mead and McMillan Wildlife Areas. First, I am extremely pleased to announce that Sam De Roche has joined the team as the Mead Educator. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in environmental and outdoor skills educational programming to the team. You will be able to learn more about Sam later in this issue of the Wetlands Gazette.

I am also excited to have another new staff member, Ben Hanten, LTE-Visitor Services Associate/Facility Repair Worker, join the team for the summer. You will also find a little more about Ben in this issue. Please join me in welcoming both, Sam and Ben to the team as you have an opportunity to meet them.

The Stanton W. Mead Education and Visitor Center has officially reopened! We are currently staffed from 9 am to 4 pm, Monday through Saturday. Be sure to check out the hands-on activities and rotating displays in the lobby and outdoor classroom spaces next time you are in the area.

The Education Team has been very busy with our drop in programming series, offering a total of 27 lessons throughout this summer. These lessons featured Wildlife Tracks, Wetland Wonders, Habitat Treasure Hunts, and Sunsets at Smokey Hill. I truly appreciate the work both volunteers and paid staff have done to make the summer series a success!

Out on the property, work continues to rehabilitate several interior dikes (Honey Island, Pool 10, Rangeline) as well as some areas along the Little Eau Pleine River. In collaboration with our colleagues from Division of Forestry, a prescribed burn was conducted at the Berard Burn Unit on the east side of the property and 10 acres of former agriculture land was converted and planted with oak and pine. The team is also working on several mowing, brushing and invasive spraying projects as we prepare for the variety for fall hunting, migration and other outdoor activities.

Lastly, I'd like to thank you, Friends of Mead and McMillan Wildlife Areas, for your continued support. Through your generosity and the tireless effort of many volunteers, several projects have been recently completed with more underway. If you're out walking around Dragonfly Pond, you may notice the education storage shed, which was designed and built by the Special Projects Team with a little help from the DNR roaming LTE crew. In the classroom, a new TV was installed to support a variety of education programming opportunities. As far as projects underway, a new boardwalk for McMillan is prefabricated and awaiting installation as well as a second snowshoe rack to hold the recently expanded snowshoe fleet.



American Bittern by Marguerite Timmerman

Friends of Mead-McMillan

Officers

- *President—Matt Ahles*
- *VP—Doug Aziz*
- *Secretary—Joan Dickrell*
- *Treasurer—Connie Milz*

Directors:

- *Tim Collins*
- *Jon Krohn*
- *Michael Lopas*
- *Steve Stageman*
- *Doug Urban*
- *William Voight*

DNR Staff:

- *Craig Ziolkowski, Property Supervisor*
- *Sam De Roche, Mead Educator*

Newsletter Editor

- *Doug Urban*



WELCOME NEW STAFF

SAM DE ROCHE

Sam De Roche is new Mead Educator. She joins the Mead Team from UWSP's Central Wisconsin Environmental Station (CWES), where she served as the Program Manager and Outreach Specialist. In this role, Sam taught the practical capstone course in Environmental Education and Interpretation for majors and minors in the College of Natural Resources. As a facilitator of professional development for graduate students earning their Master of Science in Nature Resources, Sam enjoys building bridges for where one is and where they would like to be. As a developer of programming for all ages, Sam leans into the creative process of innovation. As a presenter at professional conferences, Sam is a passionate contributor in the field of environmental education, sustainable programming and systems, and human engagement within educational sustainable spaces. Sam is also the parent to three incredible human beings, lover of music, good food, beautiful birds, a stirring philosophical discussion, and offering a big smile.



BEN HANTEN

Hello, my name is Ben Hanten, and I am the new Facility Repair Worker and Visitor Services Associate LTE. I grew up in Port Edwards and I am now pursuing a Natural Resources degree at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point. When I am not in school or at work, I spend most my time fishing or hunting across the state. I will spend most my fall pursuing waterfowl, but I always have time set aside for whitetail. I hunted the Mead all through High School and cannot wait to spend even more time out here and learn about the management of this area.



Volunteers Make It Work!

Volunteers play an integral role in almost everything we do. They work to enhance public lands and provide educational programming. They help with wildlife surveys and management. They serve as force multipliers on large projects; some even manage projects or educational program offerings. The entire team at Mead would like to take a moment to recognize the wonderful volunteers that Make It Work!

Andy M.-Bird Surveys
Betty P.-Education
Chuck S.-Wildlife Assistant
Connie M.-Education/Admin
Dan B.-Bird Surveys
Dan and Deb F.-Bird Surveys
Dick S.-Wildlife Assistant
Don F.-Wildlife Assistant
Felicia S.-Bird Surveys
Gem K.-Education
Gladys R.-Education
Harison K.-Bird Surveys
Hunter W.-Wildlife Assistant

Jackie U.-Education
Joan D.-Education
Lynn B.-Bird Surveys
Marti S.-Education
Paula M.-Bird Surveys
Rob P.-Bird Surveys
Sharon A.-Education
Steve S.-Wildlife Assistant
Sue M.-Bird Surveys
Sue V.-Bird Surveys
Tim K.-Wildlife Assistant
Warren A.-Wildlife Assistant

Additional volunteer opportunities exist. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more please contact: Craig at craig.ziolkowski@wisconsin.gov or Sam at Sandra.deroche@wisconsin.gov.





New Friends Board Member Highlights

Article by Doug Urban



Tim Collins, Auburndale enjoys hunting and fishing and camping near Tomahawk. He also likes to ride his Harley. Tim does design and drafting using AutoCad. He has worked at Jim's Building Center in Fennimore and Marawood Construction Services doing drafting, estimating, project managing, purchasing, surveying, site and earthen manure pit design and stake-out using total station and GPS survey equipment. He does woodworking and got started in carpentry and roofing with his father. Tim has in the past, when working in the field for Marawood, done concrete flat work. He also has done steel fabrication and welding projects. He owns a D7F Caterpillar dozer and an International Hough 60 Payloader which he operates as needed. He has two granddaughters that he brings to the Mead Visitor Center weekly for the afternoon sessions. Tim built a play tower for the girls with slides and swings, etc. He has spent quite a bit of time building and renovating his son's house. He decided to join the Mead board of directors after meeting another board member who suggested that he join.

Steve Stageman, Wisconsin Rapids has enjoyed hunting and fishing since he was a boy. He likes to hike in the woods and goes kayaking. Steve retired three years ago from designing large metal milling and drilling machines as a mechanical design engineer. He is a fix-it type of person and has remodeled houses, built decks and handicapped ramps. He has been volunteering to work on various construction projects at the Mead for the past three years. Steve enjoys hiking and hunting at the Mead and wants to continue working to make the Mead Wildlife Area enjoyable for all.





GEORGE W. MEAD II Obituary

Oct. 11, 1927 – July 29, 2022 George W. Mead II, an icon in the Wisconsin and North American paper industry, died in Madison, Wis., on Friday, July 29, 2022. He was 94. George was well known for his leadership of Consolidated Papers, Inc., formerly headquartered in Wisconsin Rapids, and also for his leadership in the paper industry. At the time of his death, he continued to serve as chairman of the Mead Witter Foundation, Inc., a family philanthropic foundation. George was the motivating force for the Foundation's recent gift to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, which created the Mead Witter Foundation concert hall in its new performance building on University Avenue, and for which the University conferred the honor of naming the music school the Mead Witter School of Music. He also founded the Wisconsin River Papermaking Museum in Wisconsin Rapids and often personally conducted tours for school children who visited the museum. Mead was chairman and CEO of Consolidated Papers, Inc., from 1971 to 1993. He continued to serve as chairman until 2000 when the company was purchased by Stora Enso Oyj, a paper company headquartered in Helsinki, Finland. He was then invited to serve on the Stora Enso board of directors, a position he held until 2004. George joined Consolidated in 1952, the company his great-grandfather started in 1894. He began as a chemical engineer and progressed to production manager and quality manager before becoming vice president of operations in 1962. He was elected a corporate director in 1963. In 1966, George became president and chief executive officer, the position he held until 1971 when he was named chairman and CEO. Under Mead's leadership the company grew to nearly \$2 billion in sales, was designated a Fortune 500 company, and became known as the world's leading producer of coated printing papers for magazines, catalogs and annual reports. The company was valued at \$4.8 billion at the time of its sale. Throughout his career, George took a keen interest in business affairs. He served on a variety of corporate boards. His philosophy was to "manage by walking around," long before it became a buzz-term in management textbooks. George felt most happy to be out in the mill talking to those who were making paper, solving problems and improving operations. His technical training and early assignments in the mill gave him a special connection with workers. He always asked to be called "George," rather than Mr. Mead, and that is how everyone in the company, community, paper industry, and extending to the New York financial community addressed him. Like his father, Stanton Mead, George was an avid conservationist. He continued the work of his father in preservation of land for hunting and fishing through active involvement in the affairs of the Mead Wildlife Area, a 33,000-acre property owned and operated by the DNR in Central Wisconsin; the promotion of best forestry practices on Consolidated Papers' 692,000 acres of timberlands in the U.S. and Canada, as well as serving on the board of Trees for Tomorrow, Inc., a Wisconsin organization focused on introducing young people to careers in the forest industry. Besides his involvement at the national level in the improvement of water quality of rivers and streams, George was a forceful proponent of improvements in water management and quality for the Wisconsin River. Among responsibilities, he was an officer of both the Consolidated Water Power Company, which owns and operates five dams on the Wisconsin River, and the Wisconsin River Power Company which controls another two dams. George was always very proud to state that except for "a few years away at school," he lived on the shores of the Wisconsin River his entire life. In 1983, the Wisconsin DNR, in recognition of Mead's accomplishments, awarded Consolidated Papers the coveted John Brogan Award for the many improvements made in this area. Perhaps George's most famous photo, which was widely published by State news media in 1977, was a photo of him drinking a glass of treated effluent from the company's newly constructed state-of-the-art Water Renewal Center in Whiting, Wis. George worked his entire life to improve and preserve open park space for public use along the banks of the Wisconsin River. On the day of his death, a new park funded by the Mead Witter Foundation opened in downtown Wisconsin Rapids overlooking the river he loved. He had quietly toured the park several weeks before. George was an accomplished downhill skier, a sport he continued until well over 85 years of age. He skied the Colorado mountains with hometown friends, business friends, but was especially happy to be on the slopes with his grandson and other family members who skied. Dixieland jazz was George's favorite music. Mead received his early education in Wisconsin Rapids and then attended Hotchkiss Preparatory School, Lakeville, Conn., prior to enrolling in Yale University, New Haven, Conn. After graduation from Yale in 1950, with a degree in chemistry, Mead went on to receive an M.S. degree from the Institute of Paper Chemistry, Appleton, Wis., in 1952. Mead was born in Milwaukee, Wis., on Oct. 11, 1927. George is the son of Stanton W. and Dorothy W. Mead; the grandson of George Wilson Mead and Ruth Witter Mead; and the great-grandson of J.D. and Emily Witter, all of Wisconsin Rapids. During his college years, he married Helen Anderson in Connecticut. He later married Susan Feith in Wisconsin Rapids. Mead is survived by his wife, Susan; daughters, Deborah Mead Tillotson, Chicago, and Leslie Bryant Frisinger, Madison; and son, David Mead, Muskego. He is further survived by one sister, Mary LaMar, Madison. A brother, Gilbert Mead, preceded him in death. A celebration of life will be held in Wisconsin Rapids in the fall.

Excerpts from the Obituary in The Daily Tribune, Wisconsin Rapids, WI.



Mead Bird Images by Marguerite Timmerman



Pelicans in Flight



Belted Kingfisher



Trumpeter Swans With Signets



Lesser Yellowlegs



Fall Family Festival

Bring your whole family for fun at Mead Wildlife Center

Sunday, September 11, 11 am-2 pm



11 am: Nature Crafts

Noon: Monarch Tagging & wildflower walk

**1 pm: Rex Runke
live bird presentation**



**Mead Wildlife Area Education & Visitor Center
201517 County Road S, Milladore, WI**

Sponsored by Aldo Leopold Audubon Society & Friends of the Mead/McMillan Assoc. Inc.



Friends of Mead/McMillan Purchases New Technology



The “Friends” have purchased a TV, Bluetooth speakers and new education supplies.

WANTED

Enthusiastic people who are interested in serving on the Friends of the Mead/McMillan Board of Directors. The board meets every other month. If interested contact Connie Milz for an application at 715-457-2690.



Our deepest sympathies to the friends and family of Friends of the Mead board member Mike Kietlinski. It appears that Mike lived an active, interesting and full life.



Michael (Mike) Kietlinski, 86, of Mosinee, WI passed away on December 23, 2021 at Marshfield Medical center, Marshfield, WI after a courageous battle with cancer.

Mike was born in Milwaukee, WI on January 4, 1935, to Leo and Lucille (Narlock) Kietlinski. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Gerard's Church in Milwaukee, WI.

After graduation from Marquette University High School, Milwaukee, WI, Mike went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts Degree at St. Norbert College, De Pere, WI. As a college track letter winner he specialized in the 400 yard dash. Following college graduation, Mike enlisted in the U.S. Army, stationed in Germany during the Berlin Wall crisis.

On November 21, 1964, he married Marjorie Hendren in Kansas City, MO and they were blessed with two sons and a daughter. Mike spent several years working for the federal government in Muscatine, Iowa, Chicago, and then Wausau, WI. He later worked at Marathon County Social Services. When times were tough he didn't hesitate to take a job below his education and work experience to provide for his family.

Mike had a lifelong love of history and literature. His family will remember him most for reading, reading, and more reading. He was our "walking encyclopedia." Ask him anything about anything and he always knew the correct answer.

He loved outdoor sports and spent many hours fishing, hunting, and hiking. Mike also enjoyed cross country skiing and trap-shooting. He raced in the prestigious Birkebeiner ski race over 20 times after the age of 45. He was a member of Mosinee Sportsmen's Alliance and Marathon Trap Club.

Mike liked to travel and visited Alaska, Hawaii, and Costa Rica with Marjorie.

Mike will be dearly missed by his wife of 57 years, Marjorie, sons Stanley (Stephanie) Kietlinski, Hudson, WI, and Ted (Carla) Kietlinski, Birnamwood, WI and daughter Sonja (Brian) Rick, Mosinee.

He was an involved grandfather to Dustin and Nathan Wampole, Ethan Kietlinski, Garrison, Emmitt, and Reanne Kietlinski, Olivia (Ali) Izhaman, Nicole Helvey, and great-grandfather to Ada and Abigail Wampole. Also survived by a sister, Monica (Richard) Staab, Sun City, AZ.

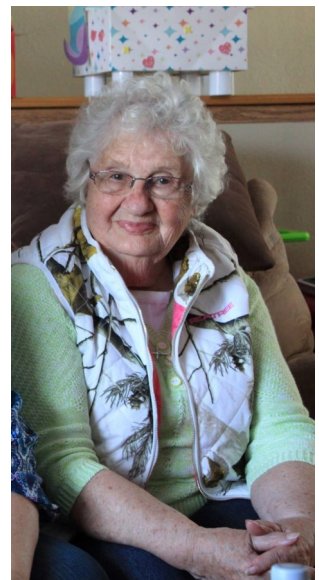
A memorial mass was said by Fr. Marion Talaga at Our Savior Catholic Church in Mosinee.



Mead Book Club

Thank you to this retiring FOMM Board member!

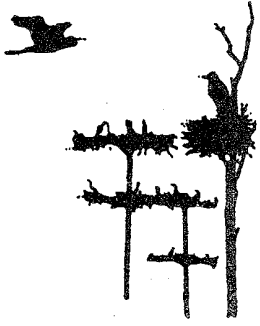
**Marlene Furo was a valuable member of the Friends of the Mead/McMillan board and was always quick to help with children's education programs, mailing the newsletter and many other projects.
THANK YOU MARLENE!**





Friends of Mead/McMillan Event Planner

- August 31 7:00 PM DNR Wanna Go Hunting Series: What Can We Hunt?
- September 3, Wausau Wheelers Century Ride Rest/Swag Stop
- September 11, 11 AM to 2 PM Fall Family Festival
- September 17, Deer Archery Opening Day
- September 17, Small Game Opening Day
- September 17, Fall Turkey Opening Day
- September 17-18, Youth Waterfowl Hunt
- September 24, Waterfowl Opening Day
- September TBD, Beginner OnX /PALs Mapper
- October 15 Game Bird Opening Day
- October TBD Volunteer Recruitment and Orientation Meetings
- October TBD Beginner OnX/PALs Mapper
- October TBD Mondays at Mead
- November 19-27 Deer Rifle Season
- November TBD Beginner OnX/PALs Mapper
- November TBD Mondays at Mead
- December TBD Open Snowshoeing-pending snow
- December TBD Guided Snowshoeing-pending snow
- January TBD Friends of the Mead/McMillan Assn. annual meeting
- January TBD Open Snowshoeing-pending snow
- January TBD Guided Snowshoeing-pending snow
- January TBD Moonlight snowshoeing
- January TBD Mead Book Club
- January TBD Mondays at Mead



**Friends of
Mead/McMillan
Association, Inc.
201517 Cty Hwy S
Milladore, WI 54454**

Mailing Address

Friends of the Mead McMillan Newsletter Changes

The Friends of the Mead newsletter is going digital. Inside you will find a card to fill out that will allow you to update your contact information and email address. This move will reduce the usage of paper and save hundreds of dollars in printing and postage. If you prefer a paper copy you will be able to print the newsletter on your home printer. For those who don't have email a few copies of the newsletter will be printed and mailed to you. Please take the time to fill out the enclosed card.