

Write



DNR FILE

CAMP MEENAHGA UPDATE

In our June issue, we took readers back to the day when a summer girls camp — Camp Meenahga — was founded within Peninsula State Park by Alice Orr Clark and Kidy Mabley. At the time of magazine production, we had not been able to find photos of the 1931 Model A wood-sided station wagon that was the focus of the story. This photo was submitted after we published the story and shows a group of campers in the back of the station wagon. We also heard from Laurence Day of Ladue, Missouri, Mrs. Clark's grandson who remembers the car from his youth. Here are some of his comments:

I really do think my grandmother was a pioneer and helped put Wisconsin "on the map" for outsiders. Remember, this was 1916 and through the 20s and 30s and the war-year 40s, people didn't travel around much unless they were among the very few well-off class. And all the "highways" were two lanes.

Then, after World War II and beginning slowly in 1947 and onward, the pent-up economic demand burst with dollars in their pockets from the war defense production effort. That's when the Eisenhower interstates were built and the middle-class ascended, motel chains developed, and gas was still 35 cents a gallon. Not yet restaurant chains — that scourge came in the 60s. Then for the first time we saw more and more trailers with campers drive into the Peninsula State Park in the summer. That was all rather a new sight.

I really want to see that '32 Ford station wagon now refurbished that I used to drive. I'd give my eye teeth to have owned that. I would know it from the names carved into the wood above the front windows as I recall. And in 1948 it was still in good shape and very driveable. I was there the whole summer when all the camp items and possessions were sold. In '48 I was 14.

I have always considered Meenahga and Fish Creek my home away from home. I know most of Door County as well as any native today born there. I always go to the camp when I come to Door County over the past years. And I wander around the underbrush and trees as I know where everything was. And I can see it all happening again in my mind's eye. I am glad I have lived long enough to do this and remember scenes of campers right "on the spot." It can be like "yesterday," and I wish it were!

It's not too late to catch some of the Camp Meenahga 100th anniversary celebration events being held in the park this summer. Visit wiparks.net or call the Nature Center at 920-854-5976 for more information.

COMMENT ON A STORY?

Send your letters to: Readers Write, WNR magazine, P.O. Box 7191, Madison, WI 53707. Or email letters to dnrmagazine@wisconsin.gov. Limit letters to 250 words and include your name and the community from which you are writing.

NO ACCESS TO THE WEB?

Don't have access to a link we mention in a story? Let us know when you want to follow a link we list. We'll do what we can to get you a copy of the material if it is available free of charge and is relatively short in length.



CATHY ZIMMERMAN



CATHY ZIMMERMAN

NOT VERY CAMERA SHY

While photographing this impressive cluster of Indian pipe along the trail behind the library in Hayward, a wood frog jumped into the picture.

Last summer, a robin built her nest in some antlers we had attached to the garage. She — or another robin — is using it again this year. The squirrels also appreciate nibbling on the antlers.

Cathy Zimmerman
Cornucopia



MICHAEL VAN HEUKLON

A FOXY FIRST

I took this photo of a red fox pup this spring. It is living in a log pile behind my cousin's house. The photo was taken in Outagamie County. This is a first for me to get to photograph a young one.

Michael van Heuklon
Freedom

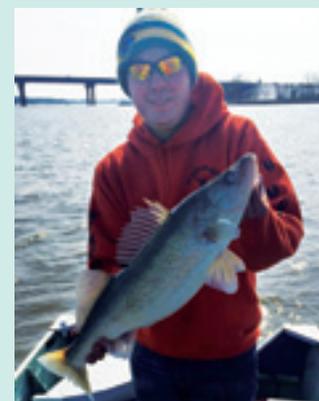


RON SEDLACEK

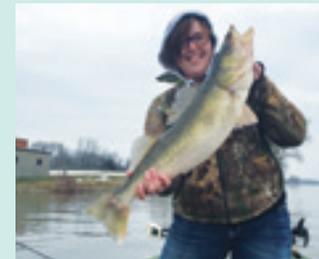
DEFINITELY NOT THE EASTER BUNNY

I was looking outside my living room window fully expecting to see the Easter Bunny (over Easter 2016) when instead I saw a northern flying squirrel hopping on the ground. These are nocturnal creatures and are not ground dwellers. She seemed to be cold and confused and allowed me to walk right up to her. I picked her up and wrapped her in a towel and placed her in one of our four duck houses we have on our property. I checked the house the next day and she was gone so I'm hoping after nightfall she climbed out and took to soaring the night skies.

Ron Sedlacek
Hatley



ALEXIS CAELWARTS



ALEX MEYER

WONDERFUL WALLEYE

My boyfriend and I both caught decent walleye. He caught a 24-inch and I caught a 27-inch. We were fishing on the Fox River in Green Bay, and both fish were released.

Alexis Caelwarts
Green Bay