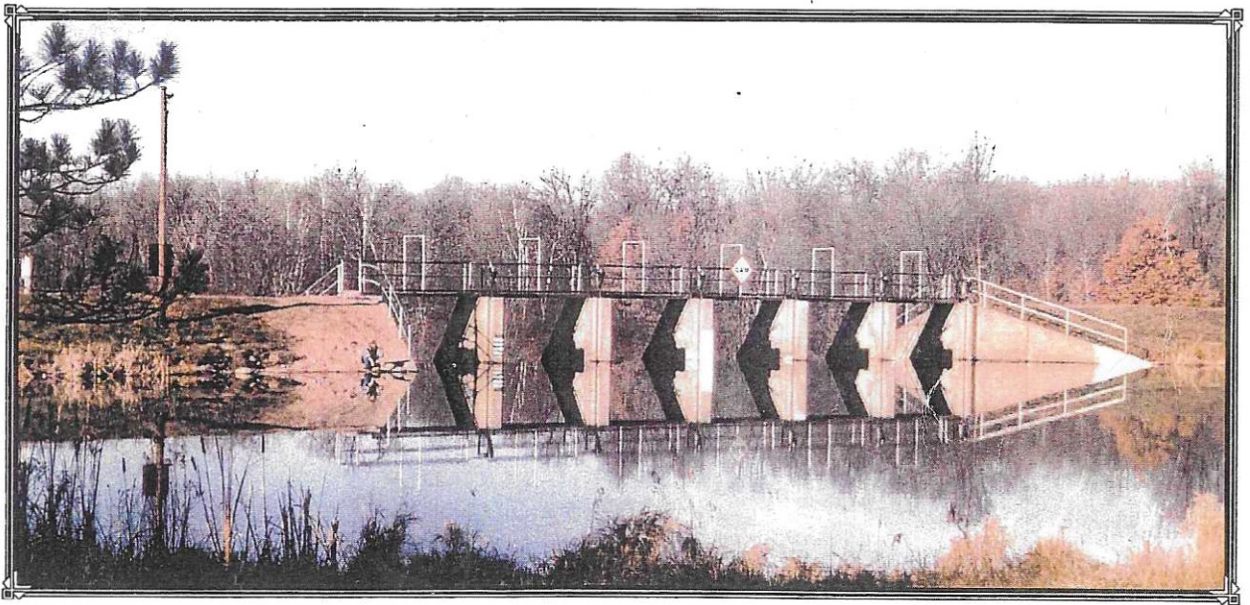


A Collection of

Mead Lake Nostalgia



Our Lake is 50 years old
1952-2002

Acknowledgments:

This is a collective work of a committee and is made possible through the generosity of the Trierweiler Family.

Bradford C. Lovelace, historian

Jennifer Lovelace-Voigt, writer

Darlene Schultz, artistic layout

Lois J. Lovelace

Dee Zimmerman, *Clark County Press*

Pat Braun, Greenwood Library

Ray Hoffman

Jennie Hoffman

Glenn Struss

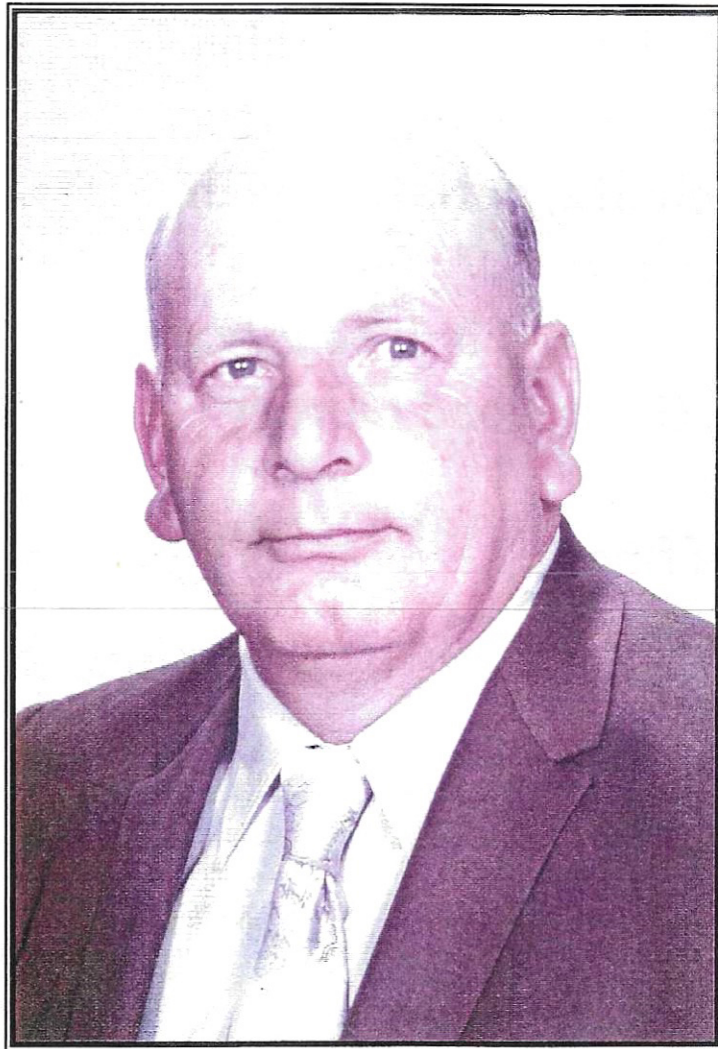
Eula Luzovek

Pattie Denk

This publication is a gift to the home owners and friends of Mead lake in the memory of

Harold Trierweiler

Harold was one of the original cabin owners on Mead Lake. Throughout his many years of weekends spent on the lake, his love of it was apparent to all who knew him. His favorite lake activity was muskie fishing.



1922-1998

Origins of the Name "Mead Lake"

It appears that the Town of Mead and later Mead Lake were named for farmer, lumberman and former county board supervisor, William H. (Harrison / "Harry") Mead.¹

William H. Mead was born in Pawlings, NY on November 19, 1833. He, along with his wife and children, arrived in Clark County in 1865. He farmed for a while, but later saw the huge potential for logging in the area. He became one of the leading loggers in this area and at one time he and his partners owned 10,000 acres of forest.² He had held several political offices and in 1891 was defeated by four votes in his bid for state assemblyman.³



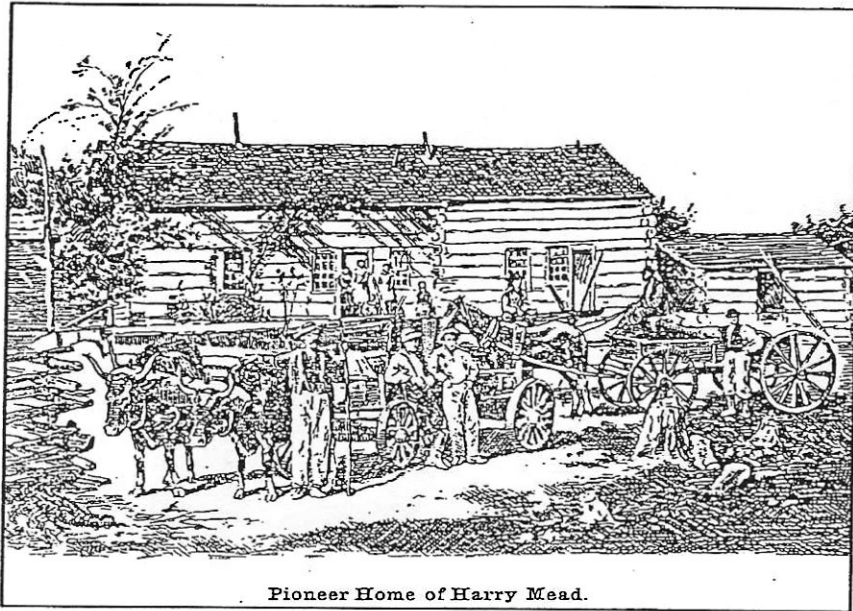
MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM H. MEAD

¹R. J. MacBride, History of Clark County, Clippings from the Thorp Courier, 1900's, 1909

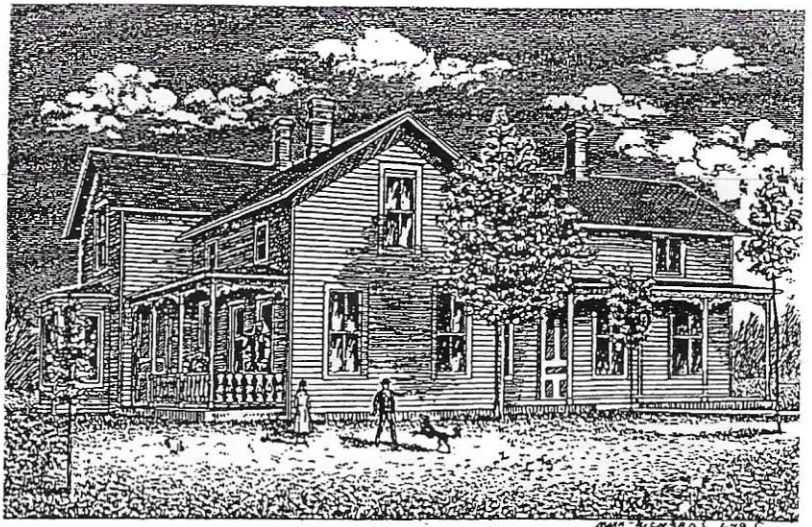
²Franklyn Curtiss-Wedge, History of Clark County (Chicago: H.C. Cooper, Jr., & Co, 1918), 424-425

³MacBride.

Mr. Mead settled with his family first in what is now Greenwood. When they first arrived, there were only three farms between Greenwood and Neillsville. He took a homestead of 160 acres of wild and heavily timbered land about 6 miles north of Greenwood which he cleared and farmed in what is now Warner Township. He later owned a farm two and a half miles south of Withee.



Pioneer Home of Harry Mead.



Farm Residence of William Mead.

The Evolution of a Lake

The Town of Mead was created on November 16, 1865 and consisted of what is now Mead and Butler. The first town meeting was held at the home of William Volrath. In 1916 the town was reorganized to its present boundaries.⁴

Map 1: Clark County 1873

- The future Mead Lake to be located in sections 28 and 29, what was then known as the Town of Warner.

Map 2: Clark County 1893

- Existence of flood or log dam in section 28
- Most land owned by lumber companies and land companies; very little privately owned land.

Map 3: Clark County 1906

- Note: Most land still owned by lumber companies and land companies

Map 4: Clark County Circa 1930

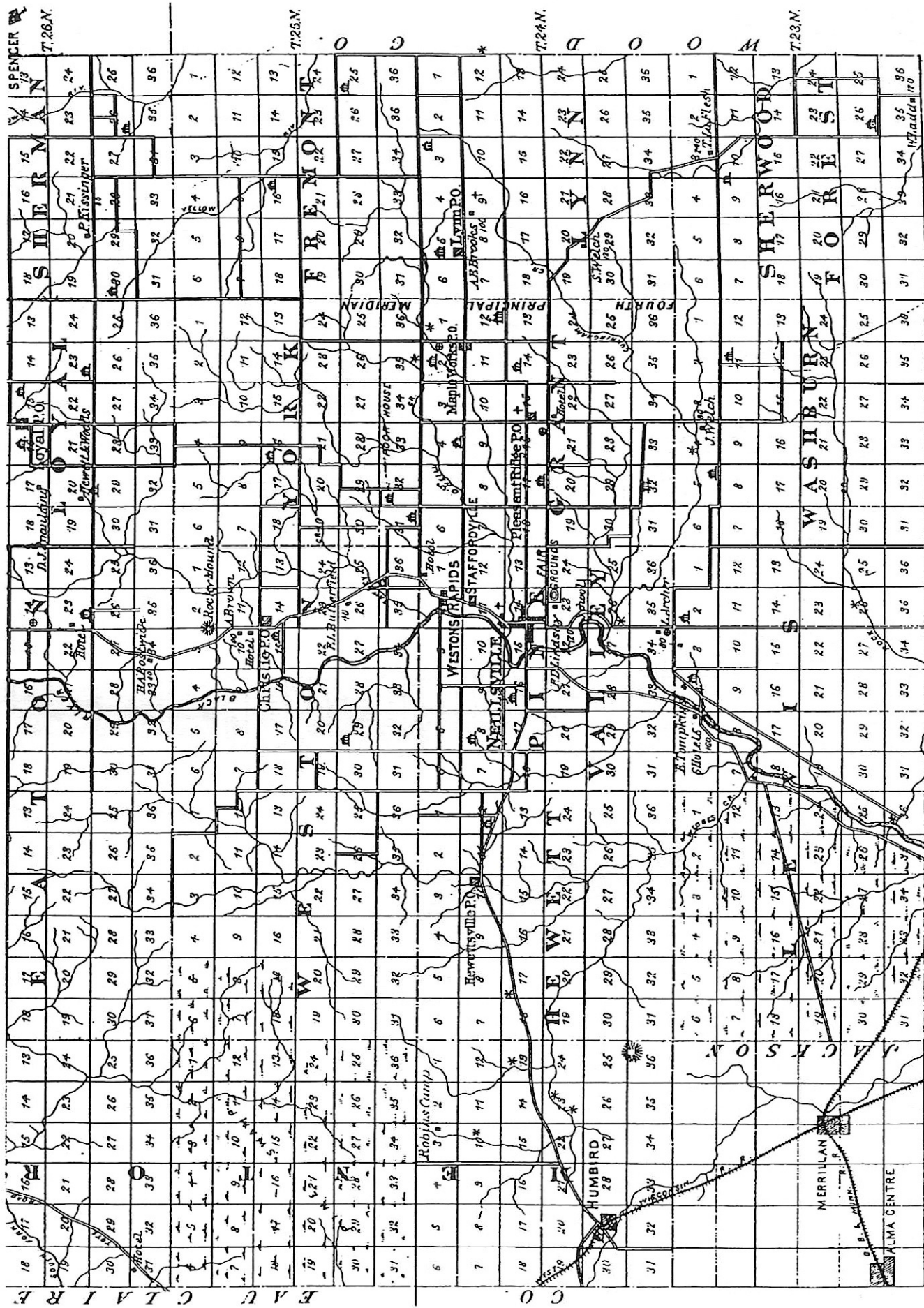
- Note: All land in Mead privately owned

Map 5: Clark County Circa 1940 (after the Great Depression)

- Note: Clark County now owns one-fourth of Town of Mead

Map 6: Clark County 2002

⁴Franklyn Curtiss-Wedge, History of Clark County (Chicago: H.C. Cooper, Jr., &Co, 1918), 424-425.



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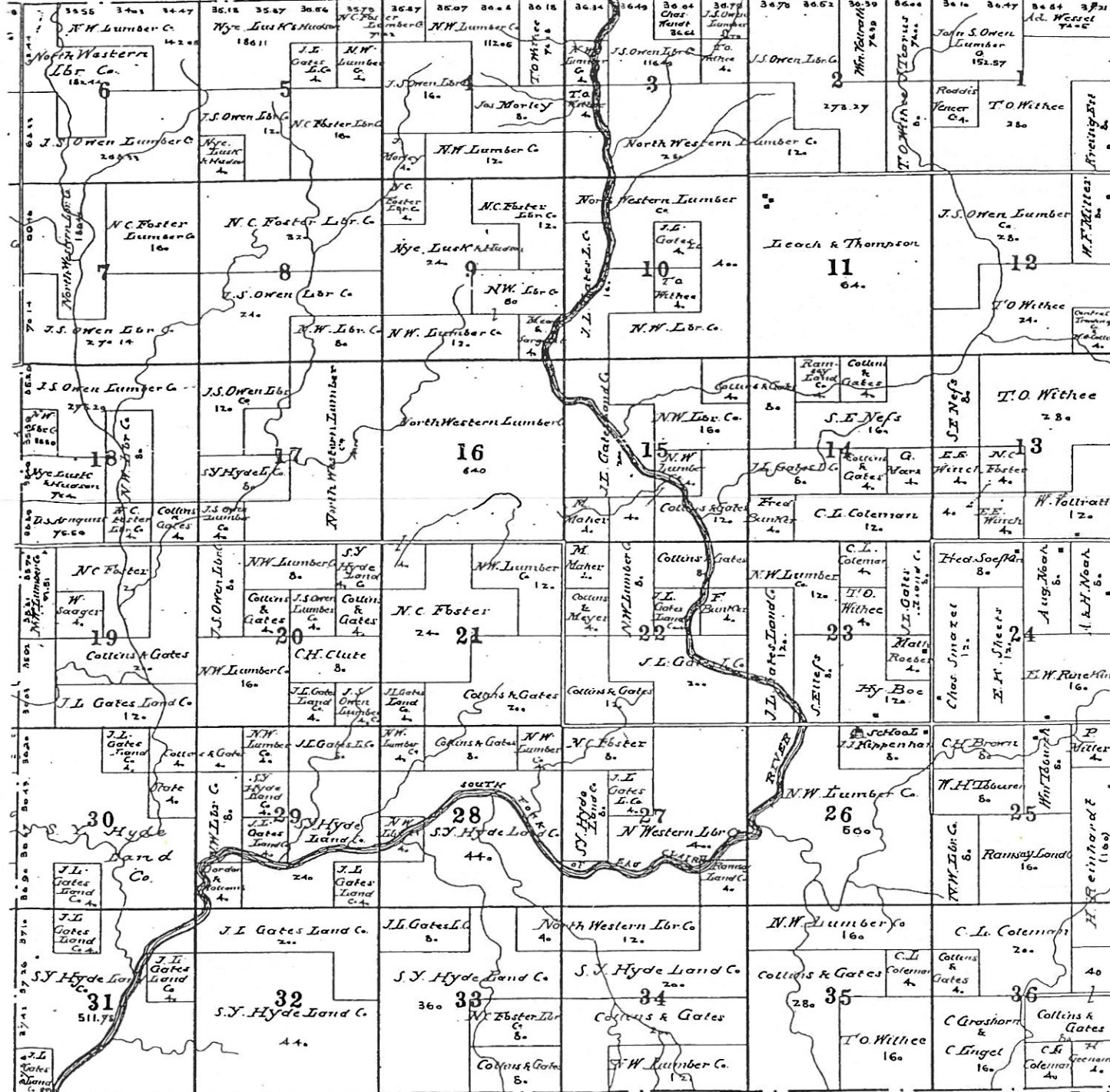
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1906

RESEBURG

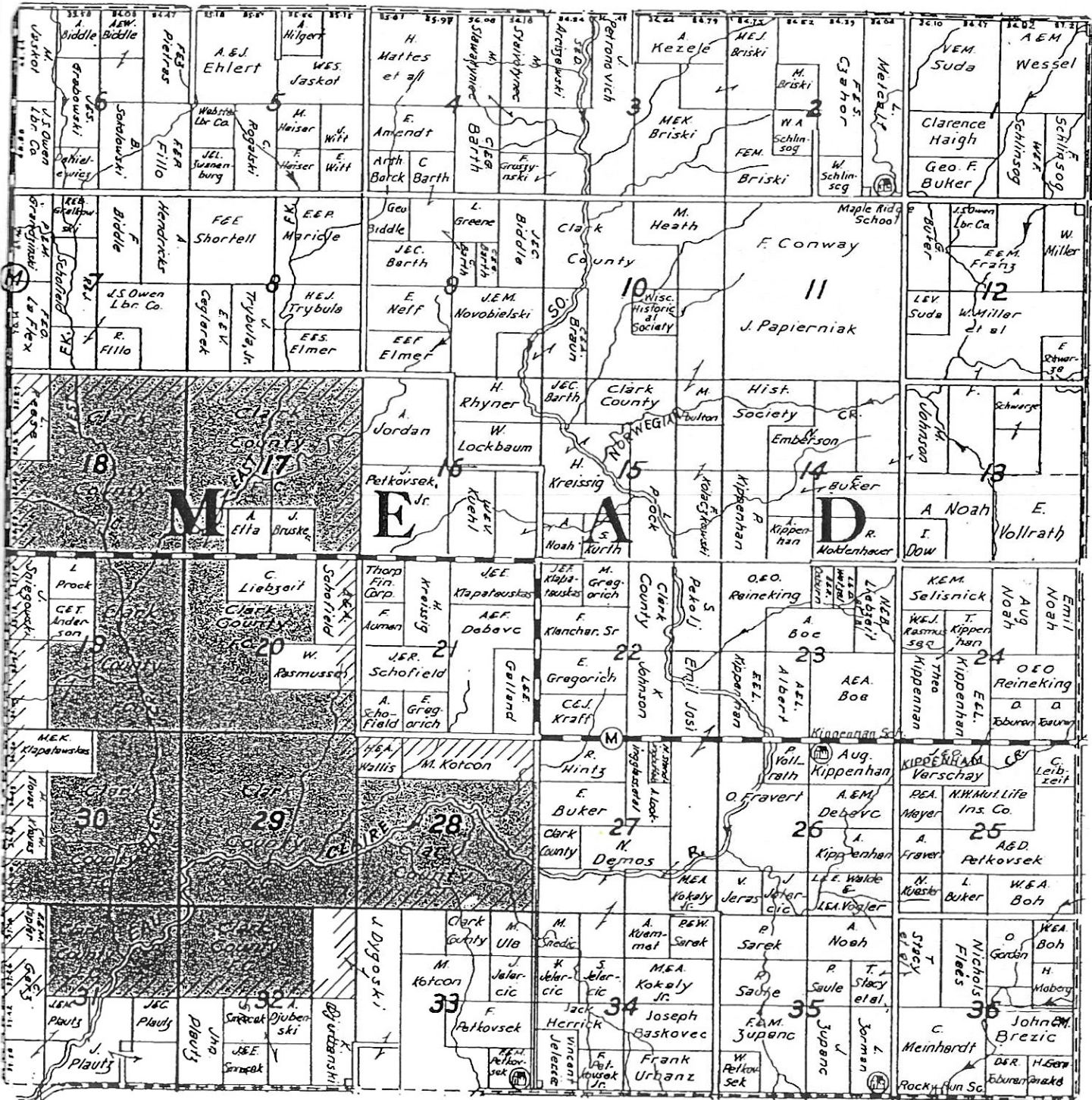
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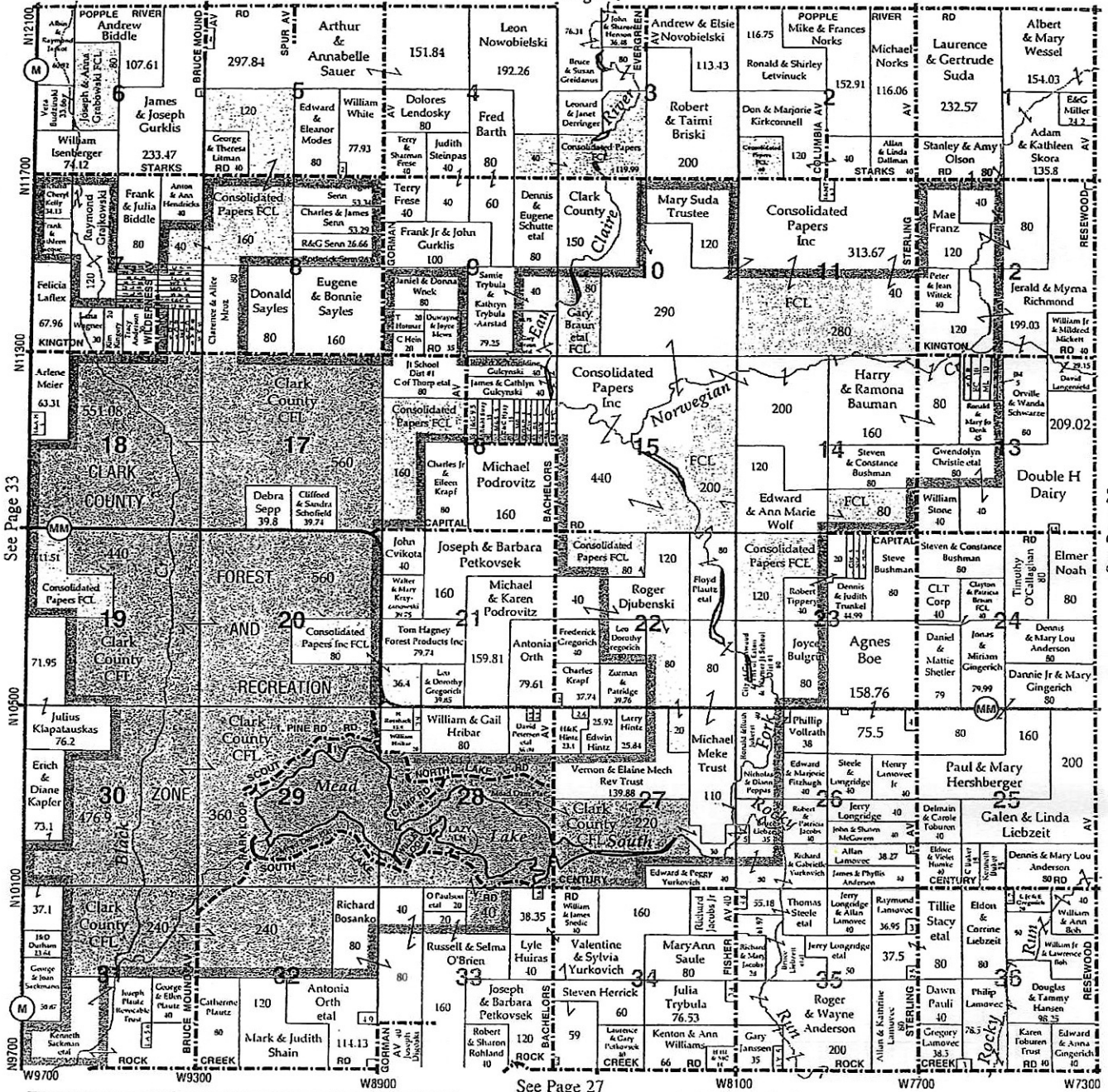
T W P





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That Damn Dam

The very first reference found regarding the damming of the river was in March 1948. An application of Clark County for a permit to "construct, operate and maintain a dam in the South Branch of the Eau Claire River" for recreational purposes was put before the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin in Madison on March 12, 1948.⁵

In the early stages, it was thought that the state Conservation Commission would foot the entire bill. However, it became apparent early on that the state intended for the lake to be used for conservation and sport only with no provisions for cottages or resort use. It would have been much smaller and not as deep. The county fathers chose to pass on the state's plan and continue the project locally. They expected that the lake would turn a profit from the \$15.00 a year it planned to charge for leasing cabin sites.⁶

That being decided, the board voted to appropriate \$30,000 for the project. Interestingly enough, only one company even made a bid on it. The Nelson Construction Company of Black River Falls made a bid of \$28,000 to complete the project. Although three other construction firms had inspected the site and made plans, they did not choose to make a bid.⁷

Later that year in September, The *Clark County Press* reported that a contract of \$28,000 for the construction of the dam had been signed by the chairman of the Clark County Park Commission and the chairman of the Clark County Board of Supervisors. The newspaper commented that this was "the first step in the creation of a 400-acre lake and county-owned recreation area...[and would] maintain the area as a recreation spot for residents." Approximately 200 cottage

⁵Notice of Hearing and Order of Publication, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin. 12 March 1948.

⁶"New Lake in the Town of Mead is Acquired by County in Year 1951", *Clark County Press*, 1 January 1952: 1+

⁷"Contract is Let for Construction at the Mead Dam," *Clark County Press* 2 September 1949: 1.

sites were to be released to individuals near the edge of the 400 acre lake.

County Clerk Mike Krultz, Jr. (who was later a cabin owner himself) said that 26 people had already applied for leases and put down deposits before the project had even started. Construction was expected to start by March 1, 1949 after the dam construction starting in the fall of 1948.⁸

Oh, Dam!

Quickly it became apparent that \$30,000 would not be nearly enough to build a dam. In December 1948 another article in the *Clark County Press* reported that the construction of the new dam would cost closer to \$63,000 to \$85,000 according to an estimate made by engineers employed to make a survey of the site by the county public property committee. The engineers, Mead and Hunt of Madison, found that the lake conditions were appropriate to permit construction of the 18 foot dam. The engineers estimated that an annual income of \$5,400 for each leased lot for 20 years would be sufficient to raise the extra money needed if the interest rate were 4% annually. (Or only \$4,860 at 2%APR)⁹ A *Marshfield News Herald* article from January 1949 stated that the County authorized the engineers of Mead and Hunt to complete the survey of the area.¹⁰ In April of that same year, the county board of supervisors appropriated \$40,000 more for the construction of Mead dam after two and a quarter hours of discussion.¹¹ In July, a \$60,000 bid for the project by E. & B. Gottschalk of Edgar, Wisconsin was approved by the Clark County Public Property Committee. They were to start the preliminary work immediately.¹²

⁸“Contract is Let for Construction at the Mead Dam,” *Clark County Press* 2 September 1949: 1.

⁹“Report on Mead Dam is Received,” *Clark County Press* 16 December 1948: 1.

¹⁰“County Group Approves Work on Mead Dam,” *Marshfield News Herald* 20 January 1949: 13

¹¹“Vote \$40,000 for Mead Dam,” *Clark County Press* 21 April 1949: 1.

¹²“Mead Dam Work Opens Next Week,” *Clark County Press* 28 July 1949: 1.

Adventures in Dam Building:

Notes from the construction site

On July 17 work started at Mead Dam. Equipment on the job were mixer, grader, two scrapers, one bulldozer and one pusher. Two men operated a scraper, bulldozer and pusher. On July 17 and 18. Rain fell the entire day on July 19. On July 20, rock excavated with difficulty near north abutment. At 5:00 P.M. work stopped because of break on bulldozer, rewelding of same completed at 2:00 P.M. on July 21. On July 22 difficult rock excavation at north abutment was completed and approximately the north half of the spillway. A pump was in operation dewatering at south abutment. At 3:30 P.M. a broken part put the bulldozer out of operation. Work scheduled for July 23 was canceled because the 20 " wide bucket had not been assembled on the excavating hoe.

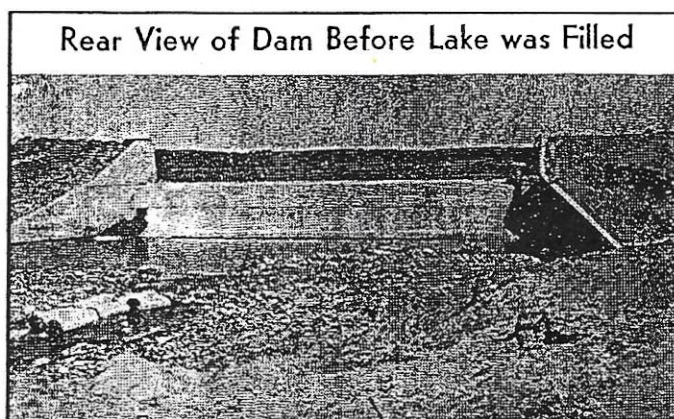
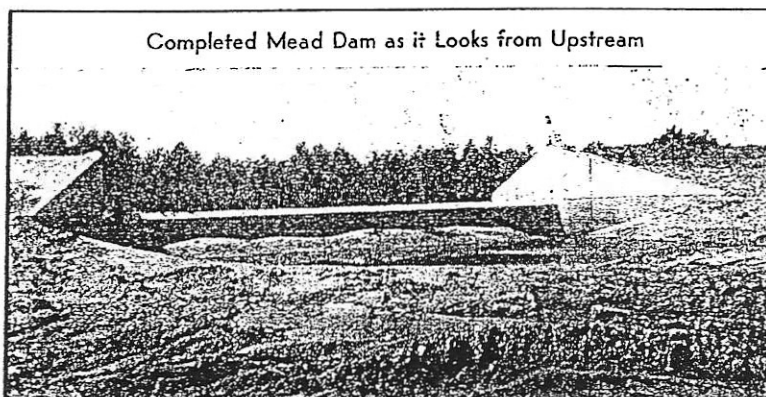
On July 24, the hoe excavated the upstream trench at the north abutment to a depth of less than 2 feet. Some solid rock in the trench cannot be removed. A flat tire on a trailer, enroute from Stetsonville, blew out so that a second bulldozer was abandoned 7 miles north of Greenwood. A part on a second trailer broke enroute to move the 2nd bulldozer. A new part from Minneapolis was installed on bulldozer #1 on July 25 and excavation continued with scraper and bulldozer #1 between 11:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M. with a one hour breakdown requiring welding. Engineer acquainted carpenter with plans and helped prepare detailed lumber list required before a first pour of trenches, apron, and portion of abutment.

On July 26, a bulldozer prepared site for batching bin and hoe excavated trench for south abutment. On July 27, road was repaired and second bulldozer brought to job. On July 27, trench at upper end of spillway was dug. Final grading for sloping apron completed. All necessary stakes and instructions were given so work can be completed for trenches. Engineer left Thursday at 5:00 P.M. and will return for concrete pour of trenches.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Men:</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
July 17	2	Scraper, Bulldozer, and pusher	
July 18	3	" " "	
July 19	-Rain		
July 20	3	Bulldozer	
July 21	2	Bulldozer	Repaired bulldozer by 2:00
July 22	2	Bulldozer	P.M.
July 23	-Rain		Lack bulldozer
July 24	3	Excavating Hoe	Lack bulldozer
July 25	5	Scraper, bulldozer & Pusher	Bulldozer repaired by 11:00
July 26	5	1 bulldozer, Hoe	A.M.
July 27	5	2 bulldozers, hoe	

The Best Laid Plans of Mice and Men and Dam Builders Oft Go Awry.

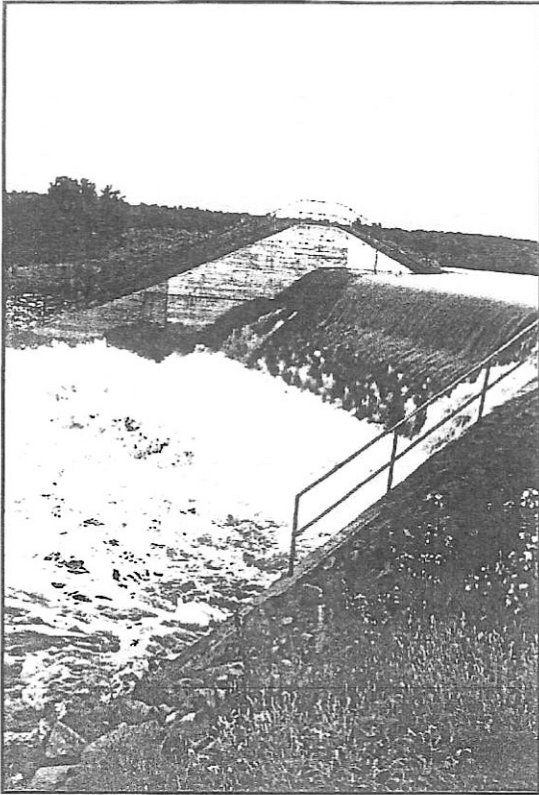
The original plans for the dam had to be extensively revised due to the unanticipated soil and rock conditions. Originally it was predicted through boring that the ground was composed of solid granite which would have been perfect for supporting a dam. However, they quickly realized that the ground was merely shale and disintegrated granite. The removal of this rock and subsequent replacement with concrete would have raised the cost of the project. They tried two other sites further downstream with no luck. Finally they decided to go with the third site and alter the manner of construction to meet the actual conditions and keep within their budget.¹³ At this point the Gottschalks predicted that the work would start in the Spring of 1951 and would be completed in the fall of 1952, just in time for the fall rains to help fill the lake. It would be equivalent to one mile long and a half a mile wide.¹⁴



pictures courtesy *The Clark County Press*

¹³“Completion of the Mead Dam is Now Set for Early Fall,” *Clark County Press* 13 April 1950: 1.

¹⁴“Completion of the Mead Dam is Now Set for Early Fall,” 1.



Dam before new gates
were installed

Finally...

The *Clark County Press* reported on August 30, 1951 that the Mead Dam was completed and the lake was starting to fill up. It seems that although the new lake had many supporters, it also had its share of dissenters including County Board Supervisor Joe Tobola who dubbed the entire project, "Operation Rathole."¹⁵

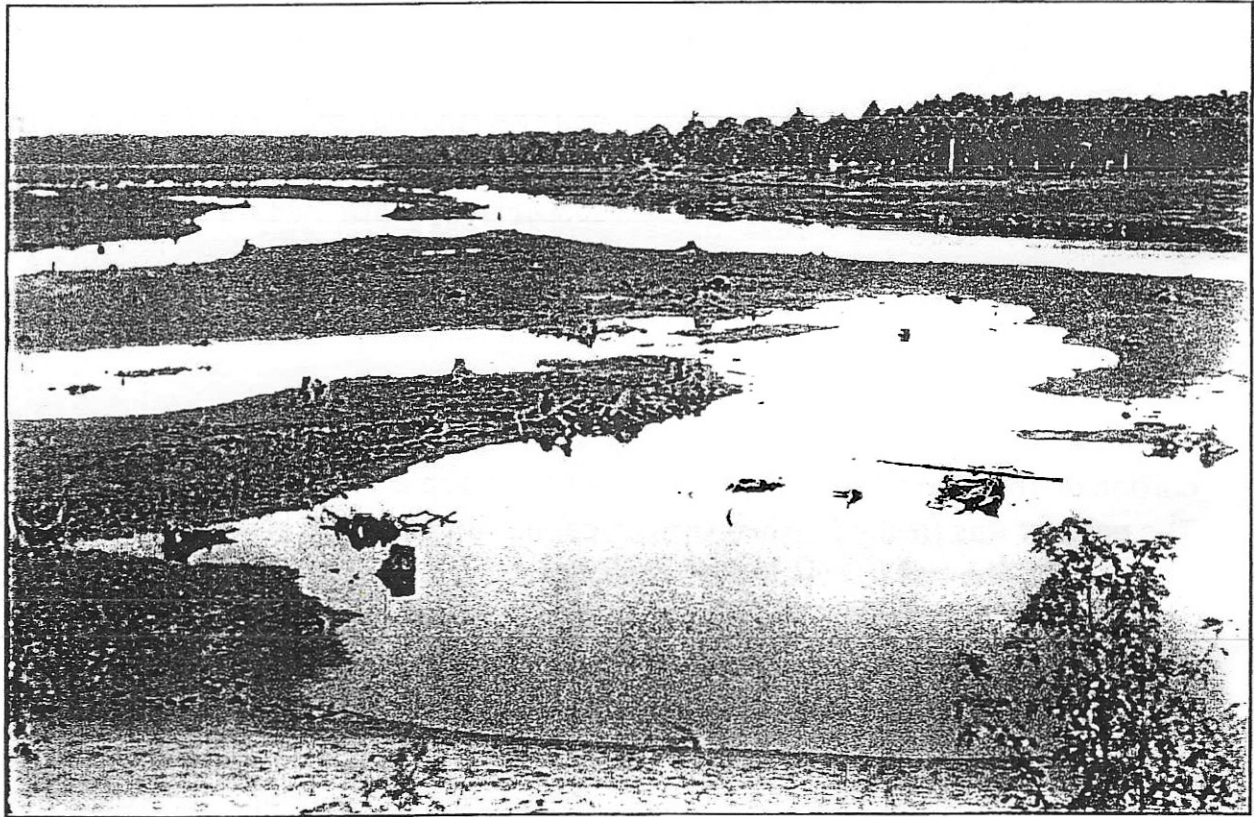
Much to the amazement of proponents and naysayers alike, the New Year's Day edition of the *Clark County Press* heralded the completion of the county's newest lake. The project was finally finished with an estimated price tag of \$80,000. The thirty four people who had put their deposits down for a lake shore lot were finally going to be able to start choosing. The applicants would be allowed to select their lots in the order in which they put their deposit down. The first and third choices went to S. J. Glankoski of Thorp and the second choice went to Calvin Mills of Owen. All together, there would be 192 lots available.¹⁶ There is much question to who actually built the first cottage. There are several that went up about the same time, but no record as to the actual first one.

^{15c}"Mead Dam Now Backs up Waters of Eau Claire River to Create new Lake," *Clark County Press* 30 August 1951: 1

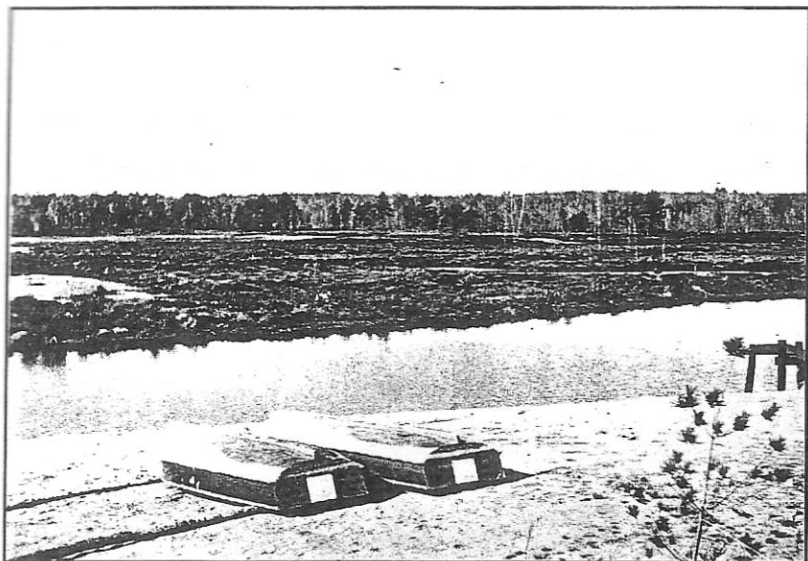
^{16c}"New Lake in the Town of Mead is Acquired by County in Year 1951" *Clark County Press* 1 January 1952: 1+

More Dam Fun!

In June 1954 *The Clark County Press* reported that 80 sites had been leased but some were no longer lakefront property. During the previous spring, heavy rains had flooded the lake and the rising water threatened the structure of the dam itself. Fortunately the flash boards broke in time to save the dam. However, this caused the water level to drop significantly leaving some sites without the lake right out in front.



Picture courtesy the Hoffman Family

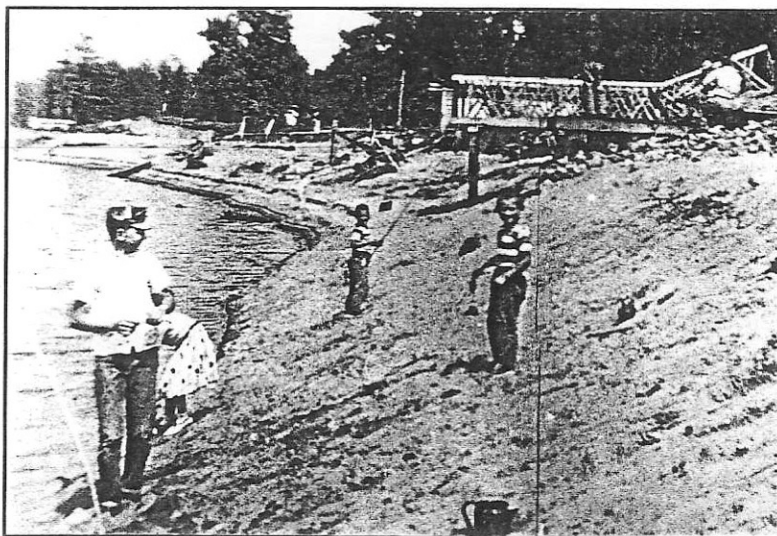


Lake drained for dam work
in front of Hoffman's (next to
dam)

picture courtesy Hoffman Family

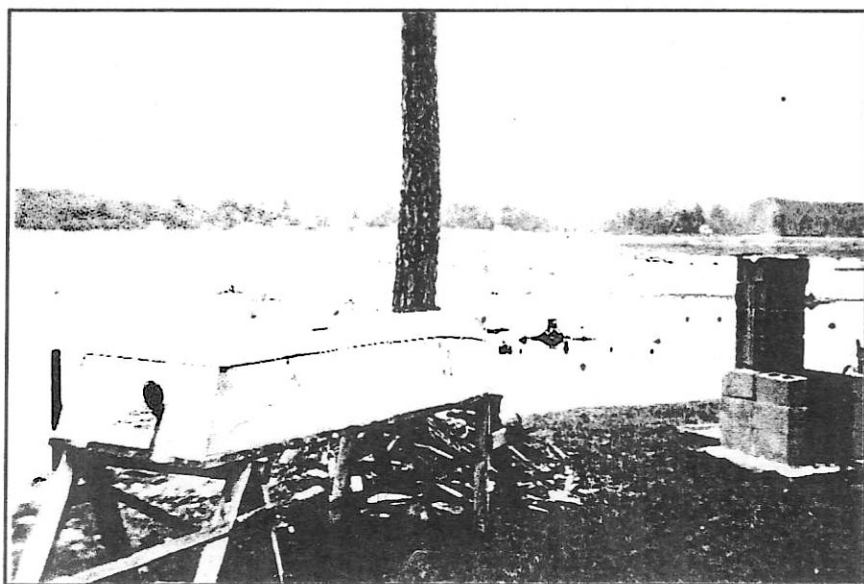
Lake drained for fish
eradication and to compact
the lake bottom. Picture
taken in front of Staut's
dock.
(south side of lake)

picture courtesy Stout Family



pictures courtesy Trierweiler
Family

Drained lake in front of
Trierweiler cabin looking
toward north side of lake.



The County Board was once again faced with the dilemma of what to do with the lake. Some supervisors wanted to just abandon the entire project whereas others grudgingly admitted that they couldn't just walk away from it since they had so much invested already. Another felt that they couldn't break their promise to the cottage owners on the lake. They decided to hire an engineer to advise them.¹⁷ In August the engineer came back with a proposal to improve the system of flash boards and to build another spillway. The suggestion was tabled until the fall session.¹⁸ In November the board voted to allocate \$25,000-\$30,000 for an auxiliary spillway on the north of the dam.¹⁹

More dam problems

The County learns in April of the following year that the cost of fixing the dam will be even more than first thought: \$39,945. This would make the total expenditures for the dam total a whopping \$141, 393.39, significantly more than the original \$30,000 apportioned eight years prior. According to the April 21, 1955 *Clark County Press*, the resolution to approve the repair of the dam, "was rejected by the county board of supervisors at 3 p.m. Wednesday. The vote was 36 for, 25 against." A two thirds vote (41 votes) would have been needed to approve it.²⁰

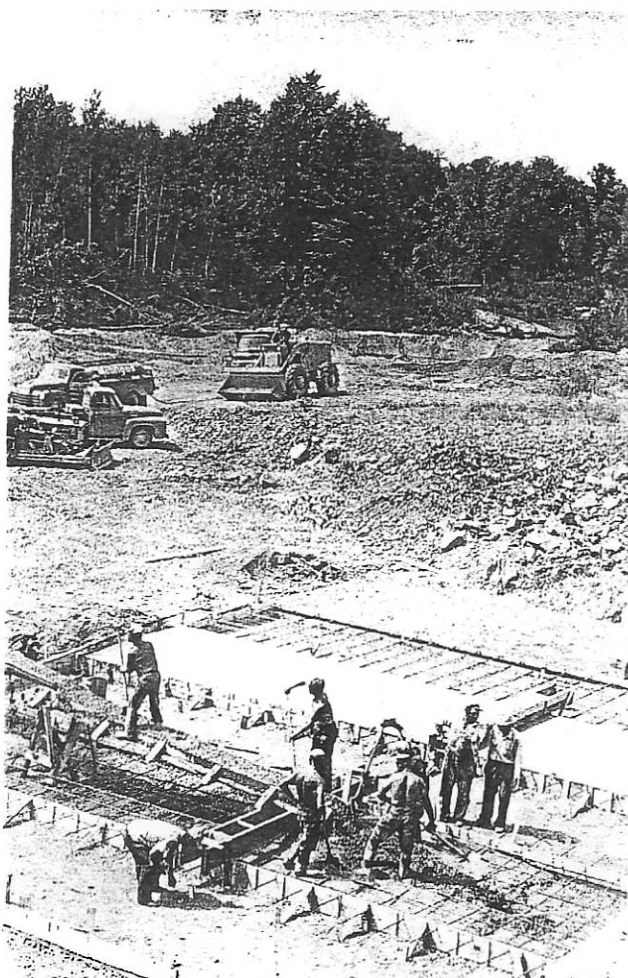
¹⁷^c"More Worries for Clark County on the Mead Project," *Clark County Press* 10 June 1954: 1-2.

¹⁸^c"Mead Dam Slapped Down at Tuesday's Session of County Board," *Clark County Press* 12 August 1954: 1

¹⁹^c"New Spillway for Mead Dam Likely," *Clark County Press* 18 November 1954: 1.

²⁰^c"Mead Dam Project Would Cost \$39,945, the County Board Learns," *Clark County Press* 21 April 1955: 1.

It appears that there was more public support for the lake than the County Board originally thought. By this time, a considerable number of cottages had been built with many more anticipated. The hope was that the lake would become a "substantial resort."²¹



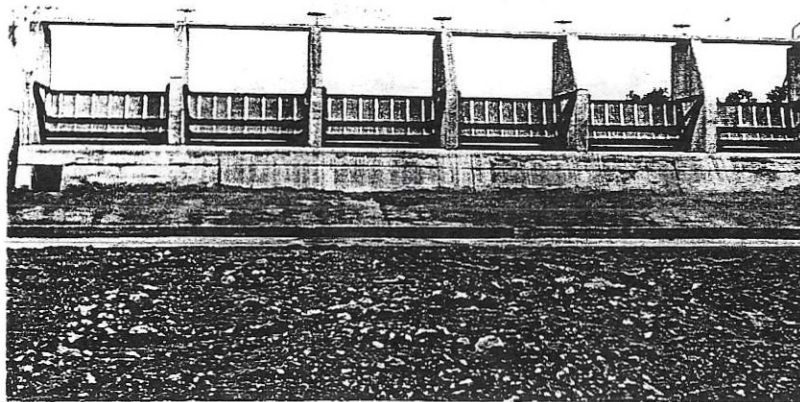
Work begins on Mead Dam-1954
Picture courtesy Hoffman Family

²¹"New Spillway of Mead Dam is Completed and Goes into Service," *Clark County Press* 13 October 1955: 1+.

On October 13, 1955, the front page of *The Clark County Press* was blazoned with the headline, "New Spillway of Mead Dam is Completed and Goes into Service." The old spillway wall was cut away to make room for six gates that could be raised or lowered with cables according to the desired water level. The potential pitfall of this system was that it required a responsible person to take charge of raising or lowering the gates year round or the result could be the disaster of a washed out dam which had actually occurred in several places including Greenwood.²² Ray Hoffman was one of the original gate tenders, a job he greatly loved and diligently performed. He had to crank all the gates open and shut by hand . Later Leo Olson was responsible for this job.

One of the last single operators to perform this task was Gerald Schwenn. This job is very difficult for one person because he must monitor the water level of the lake constantly and be on-call all day, everyday, rain (especially rain) or shine.

When he retired in 2001, it took three men to replace him. Today, Terry Schultz, Doug Larson and Brad Lovelace all take turns monitoring the dam and water levels.



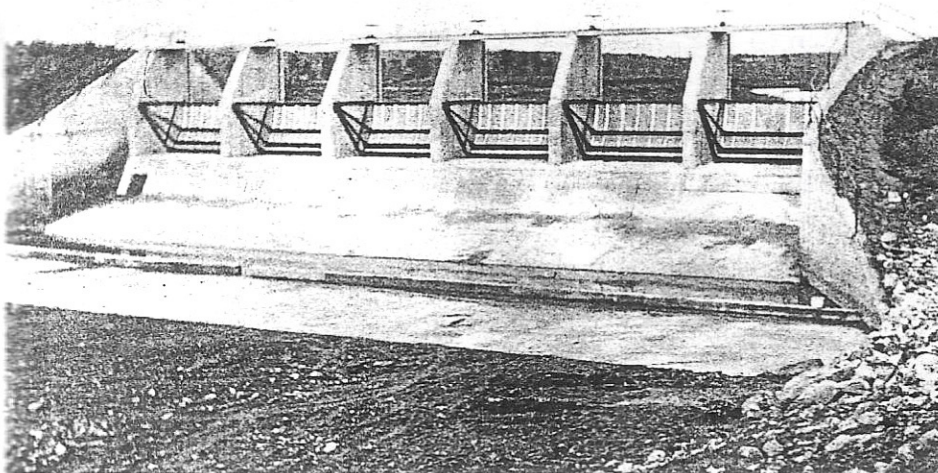
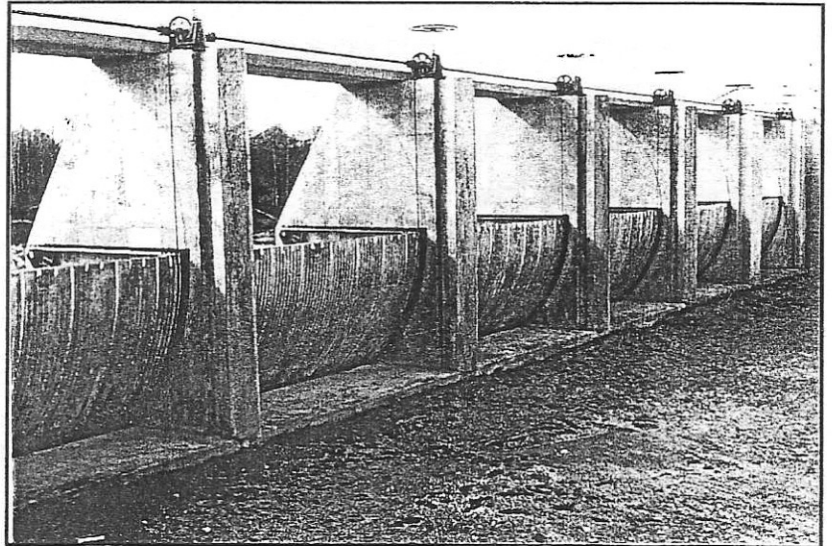
View of new gates from the front

Picture courtesy the Hoffman Family

²²"New Spillway of Mead Dam is Completed and Goes into Service," *Clark County Press* 13 October 1955: 1+.

The Much Anticipated New Dam Gates 1954

View of new gates from
the lake side.



New Dam Gates in
Use

Pictures courtesy Hoffman family

Since 1955 there have been various repairs made to the dam. The following is a chronology taken from notes submitted by the Forestry and Park Committee regarding the Mead Lake dam, lake, and parks.

1961: Lake and some 25 miles of the Eau Claire and its tributaries were treated with toxicants to remove rough fish this summer.

- Lake was stocked with walleye and bass fingerlings.

- Carp seining areas were made for future rough fish controls.

- Dam gates were repaired.

- A 25 unit campground, toilets, a shelter, boat landing and beach will be added.

1962: -A break on one of the gates at the dam forced emergency repairs at the dam. Next year all gates will be strengthened as a precautionary measure.

- A plan for a campground and beach on the north side of the lake has been prepared and partially laid out. Work will be done next year to complete the 35 unit campground. This will include one-quarter mile of new town road, one-half mile of new camp road, one toilet and one well.

- The boat landing on the south side of the lake will also be improved.

1963: -The 35 unit campground on the north park has been completed and will be ready for use next year. A beach area and picnic area will be completed next year. This will include a shelter, parking lot and changing booth.

1964: -The Mead Lake is growing in popularity. In time it is hoped that it will rival Russell Park.

- A new beach and picnic area has been completed on the north park.

- These facilities, along with the 33 unit campground that was completed last year, make a fine addition to the park system. The facilities included a 30 X 60 foot shelter, a set of changing stalls, a new toilet, and a parking lot. The Wisconsin Conservation Department contributed \$9,350 toward the development of this park.

1966 -A new toilet was installed at the dam

- Cement steps were constructed along the abutments of the dam.

- Fishing has been good this past season with muskies up to 41 inches long being caught. These fish were all stocked in the flowage since the summer of 1961 when all the fish were eradicated.

- Boating and waterskiing was very popular this year

- Camping about the same as last year

- Considerable duck hunting this year

-Forestry and Park Committee suggested that hard surfaced roads leading to dam would attract more people.

1968: -Boat landing was constructed at Mead, near the north park. This added convenience for the campers and public using the large picnic area there. The Green Thumb crew helped with this project.

1969: Electricity was installed at some of the campsites at Mead Dam this summer and the road through the camping area was repaired.

1970: -Extensive repairs to the dam gates and river channel due to erosion.

1971: -Parking lot constructed in the Mead Dam area for fishermen.

-More camping sites were provided due to the increase in the number of campers.

-Chemical control for algae was used on the lake this past summer. This along with the draw down of the lake (approximately 2 feet this winter) is thought to control the algae problem.

1973: -Mechanically operated gates were installed at dam.

-New shelter building, barbeque grill, and playground equipment added at campground along with a blacktopped parking lot and road entrance.

1974: Improvements this year:

A new boat landing and ramp were constructed, parking lot area blacktopped, new well drilled, car curbing was installed

1976: Construction of a sanitary dump station to enhance the camping facilities.

This type of facility is important to the camper who has a self-contained unit.

A charge of 50 cents per dump helps supplement the operating costs of this facility. This project also was cost-shared by ORAP local park aids program.

1984: Clark County had the opportunity to receive 50% cost sharing for the development of a new park by Mead Dam. The Forest and Park Dept. constructed a new shelter building, barbeque grill and play ground equipment. -blacktopped parking lot and roadway entrance.

-approximately three acres of camping area was brushed, stumps and rocks removed, landscaped and seeded into grass. This enhanced the environment of the area in promoting greater camper usage. Many favorable comments in regard to this project.

1988: -Repaired cement on dam and replaced two gates. This project was very time-consuming because the department is not equipped nor do they have the experience in repairing dams. Also limited amount of manpower within the department. Many times other priorities arose causing them to stop work on the dam and do other jobs.

-The state DNR inspected the dam in September. This inspection was to cost \$2500.00.

Past Presidents of the Mead Lake Club

1959 Harry Liebzeit
1960 Lowell Dorn
1961 Dr. Smith
1962 Robert Stewart
1963 Walter Krultz
1964 Dr. Koepp
1965 Dr. Koepp
1966 Dr. Koepp
1967 Dr. Koepp
1968 Dr. Koepp
1969 Dr. Koepp
1970 Dr. Koepp
1971 Roger Sutherland
1972 Roger Sutherland
1973 Roger Sutherland
1974 Harold Trierweiler
1975 Harold Trierweiler
1976 Bob Beck
1977 Bob Beck
1978 Bob Beck
1979 Louis Gerhard
1980 Arnold Rasmussen
1981 Arnold Rasmussen
1982 Arnold Rasmussen resigns
1982 Bob Brom finished term
1983 Bob Brom
1984 Bob Brom
1985 Bob Brom
1986 Foster Will
1987 Foster Will
1988 Foster Will
1989 Foster Will
1990 Foster Will
1991 Foster Will
1992 Foster Will
1993 Foster Will
1994 Foster Will
1995 Dale Thomas
1996 Dale Thomas
1997 Dale Thomas
1998 Dale Thomas

Past Presidents of Lake Association

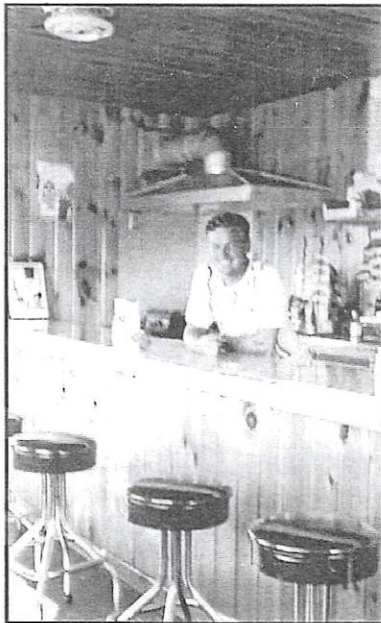
1999 Dale Thomas
1999 Charles Bena (Fall of '99)
2000 Charles Bena
2001 Charles Bena until district formed
2001 Dave Petersen-Chairman of Mead Lake Lake District

Hoffman's Resort

Anybody who was around Mead Lake during the 1950's, 60's and early 70's remembers Hoffman's. Hoffman's Resort, which opened in May 1953, was located next to the dam on the south side of the lake. It was a small, white building with a small swimming beach in front, a dock and a raft.



They rented boats and sold bait to fishermen. The proprietors, Ray and Jennie Hoffman, sold lake patrons great food, soda pop, shakes, sundaes and candy. Hoffman's was home to the world famous chocolate covered frozen banana. Hoffman's closed its doors for good in September 1972.



Ray
Hoffman
1954



Janet and Susan Hoffman

Pictures courtesy Hoffman family

Dale's North Mound Tavern

Another icon of the area for the past 65 years has been the North Mound Tavern, located two miles from the lake. The current proprietor, Dale Petkovsek, wrote the following history of the tavern:

Where DALE'S NORTH MOUND TAVERN now stands, there once was a greater school of knowledge!! The NORTH MOUND SCHOOL, originally located a mile east of the current site, was built in the fall of 1919. The acre of land needed was purchased for \$30 from Vincent Jelercic. For an additional \$1616.61 the entire school was constructed, including the well, materials and labor. An additional \$602.56 bought furniture, books, and supplies.

Valentine Jeras constructed the foundation, plastered the interior, and erected the chimney. He received \$7/day for his labor. Anton Gerc, the head carpenter, received \$4/day for his services.

On March 6, 1920, a motion was made that every child must speak "in American" while in school! Most of whom were descendants of non-english speaking immigrants.

At a special meeting on August 6, 1924, it was decided to move the building to a more central part of the district. Another acre of land was again purchased for \$30, this time from Mike Djubenski, and with teams of horses and using logs as rollers the school was moved to Djubenski's corner. This process wasn't completed until October, so classes were held six days a week for that year to catch up. The total cost of moving the building was \$1032.50, which most likely included the foundation, etc.

The decision to wire the building for electricity was made at the July 11, 1938 meeting.

Most of the teachers were of the Clark County area, and boarded at neighboring homes for a cost of about \$10/month. The classes averaged between 15-60 students, and the teachers salaries ran between \$65-\$110/month. The teachers were responsible for the janitor's duties; sweeping, dusting, tending the fire, etc. One teacher, Mable Gray, was only 17 1/2 when she taught in 1921. A student, Charlie Herrick, would arrive 90 minutes early to make a fire and warm up the building for the arriving students, for this he would receive 50 cents/month. The teachers would sometimes pay a dollar or two to a upper grade girl to do the sweeping after school. The students would take turns carrying water, the wood, and putting up the flag.

Due to lack of students, the end of the school year in 1942 was the end of classes at the NORTH MOUND SCHOOL! In 1943 the school was officially closed. In 1947 the building was bought by the Benjamin School District and again moved, to the intersection of Cty. Hwy. 0 and Capital Road were it stands today being used as a family home.

John & Joe Plautz purchased the land on October 15, 1946, which was later sold to Frank & Frances Luzovec on October 15, 1947. There they built a tavern with a grocery store attached and living quarters upstairs, know as the NORTH MOUND TAVERN!!



Fanny & Shortie Luzovec - October 15, 1947 - May 15, 1964

Glady's Trost/Martin Matkovich - May 15, 1964 - May 19, 1967

Leased to: Charlie & Millie Herrick, then later Vic Harder

Betty Kotcon - May 19, 1967 - January 13, 1969

Leased to: Harvey Tuchalski

Bob Matkovich - January 13, 1969 - July 7, 1969

Helen & Swede Neuman - July 7, 1969 - November 12, 1970

Jim & Lila Olehaphen - November 12, 1970 - July 31, 1973

Edna Sandregger - July 31, 1973 - January 24, 1978

Leased to : Bob Brom

Bob Brom - January 24, 1978 - January 31, 1978

John Kramer {managed by John & Chris Regalia} - January 31, 1978 - June 30, 1983

Dale Petkovsek - June 30, 1983 - ????



From Mead Lake Club to Mead Lake Association:

Minutes taken from meetings-1959-2002

- 1959: November 10-Mead Lake Club formed
Harry Liebzeit-President
Otto Stock-Vice President
Lowell Dorn-Secretary
Clarence Gorsenger-Treasurer
- 1960: January 12-Discussion whether to name the club, "Mead Lake Club" or "Greenwood Conservation Club". Club dues: \$1.00.
- 1961: July 5-Meeting held in the office of Dr. Smith in Greenwood. Discussion about the possibility of telephone service at or near the Hoffman resort.
- 1962: September 29-Two meetings a year approved. Motion to attempt to eliminate trailer parks on lake.
- 1964: May 30-Recommend signs, "Danger! No skiing in East Bay".
- 1966: September 3-\$50.00 reward for vandalism. Information approved.
- 1968: June 1-Club to pay for pop, milk and coffee at meetings
August 31-Attendance prize of \$10.00. Must be present to win.
- 1970: September 5-Discussed a beauty pageant with boat parade.
- 1971: May 29-Petition is to be made up to have blacktop roads to the lake and around it. Members to check to see about group insurance for owners. Concern about what can be done about cabin break ins.
- 1973: September-Lake draw down to compact lake bottom; DNR says lake district can be formed even if county owns land.
- 1974: May 25--Cost problems in getting a sanitary district
- 1976: May 28-Interested members to meet at "The Stump" on July 4th and try to remove it.
September 5-A committee looks into possibility of buying lake lots.
- 1977: May 28-Motion made to have the Club fabricate and install a boating safety and traffic danger sign at the boat landings.
September 4-Dues raised to \$5.00 a year.
- 1978: May 27-Look into automatic gate openers for dam. County to look into long term leases instead of purchase of land.
- 1982: July 3-Ken Speich, Forest and Park Representative, feels lake district is feasible and is in favor of it.
- 1984: July 7: Club dues raised to \$10.00 a year. Recommendation to try to form a lake district.
- 1985: May 26-Establish lake district and apply for funds. Use soil conservation

- department for funding . Start at the county level.
- September 1- Steve Denk chairs committee on lake district.
- 1986: May 25-Wayne Trimberger talked about the legalities involved in a district. Bob Brom talked about advantages. Vote was in favor of pursuing a lake district.
- August 31-Motion made to table the lake district formation
- 1987: September 6-Commercial fishermen that were netting carp in Mead Lake were not coming back that fall; they did not get many carp last time. Club offered to help with \$50.00 for expenses. Fishermen not interested. DNR is in contact with Don Kirn regarding repair procedures on the dam.
- 1988: Mead Lake Club promoting electric gate openers to be installed to make it more convenient for the gate tenders.
- 1989: County hired Struensee Construction to replace two dam gates; two others to be replaced later
- 1991: May 26-Mead Lake residents to get street signs and fire numbers; north and south roads will be avenues whereas east and west roads will be roads.
- 1992: September 6-Mead Dam leaking-more work to be done on it.
-Luchterhand to check sewers for leakage; he never did it.
- 1993: -Daryl Braatz made up new bylaws for Mead Lake Club.
-DNR says walleyes that are 18+ inches have an excess of mercury
- 1994: September 4-Eleven units in boat parade.
-Foster Will was given \$20.00 gift certificate for outstanding job.
-Look into differences between a "Lake District" and a "Lake Association."
- 1995: September 3-Board voted to change bylaws to conform to the rules of the Wisconsin Lake Association.
-Question regarding the increase of dues from \$20.00 to \$25.00.
-Jennie Hoffman commented that when lots were first being leased on the lake in the 1950's, the first 6 lots on the south side next to the dam were designated as business sites. Hoffmans bought the first two and ran a small shop.
-Kenny Miller suggested a carp shoot in the spring.
- 1996: May 25-Dues to be raised to \$25.00.
-Carp shoot cancelled due to liability.
-Clark County to check septic systems
-In case the Club needed to raise money for the watershed, a lake district could be formed.
- July 15-Mead Lake was made a priority for the watershed project.
\$2.6 million would be allocated.
- September 1-No watershed dollars; the state has pushed everything back until December because it ran out of money.
- 1997: Mead Lake did not get priority watershed program due to \$18 million expenditure

shortfalls by the state.

1988: September: Gregg Stangl applied for a new watershed program for Mead.

Price: \$150 million.

-Petitions for additional lot sales. 51 members did not want any sales; 9 were for

It if members could pick lots.

1999: October-Special meeting regarding becoming a lake district. Being a lake district

would help with problems such as the watershed and obtaining grants.

Forest and Park Notes: New ADA and CPSC compliant play equipment and landscaping installed by dam and at campground.

2000: DNR and Clark County fully responsible for dam.

-Vote to change from lake association to lake district: of 223 possible voters, 164 voted "yes", 15 voted "no", 49 did not respond. Cocktail party on October 21-30 people participated.

2001: -Last meeting of lake Association

-\$10,000 grant for field study

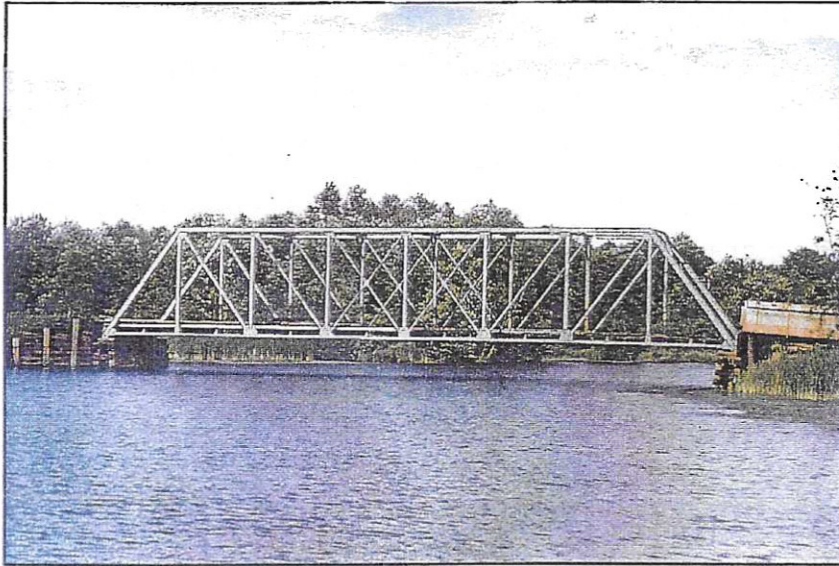
-Lake Association dissolved and all equipment, assets and liabilities transferred

to new Lake District.

2002: New vault style toilets installed at the dam

Anticipated 2002: All the gates and opening mechanisms are scheduled to be replaced in the early fall. They will be much sturdier and more efficient. The cost of this project is estimated to be \$375,000+.

Long gone...



The Old Bridge

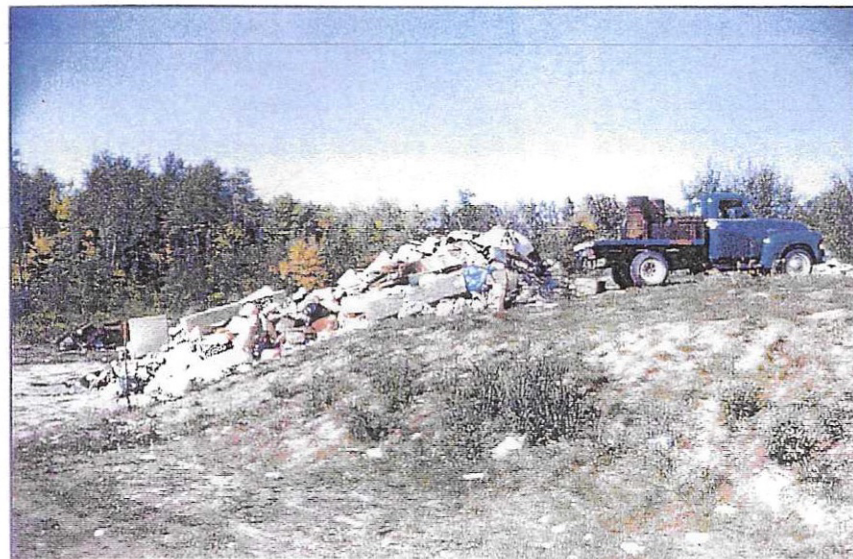
The old bridge that spanned the river that feeds Mead Lake was replaced in 1992.

This bridge connects the main artery of travel for the people on the north side of the lake who were extremely

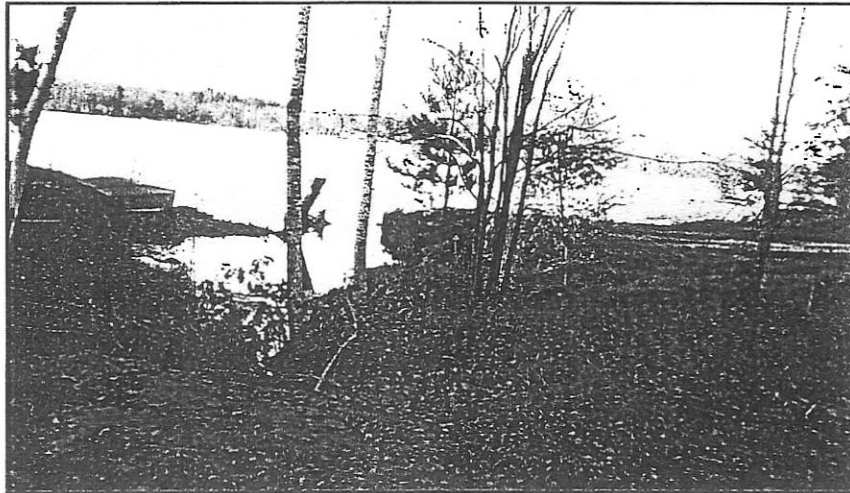
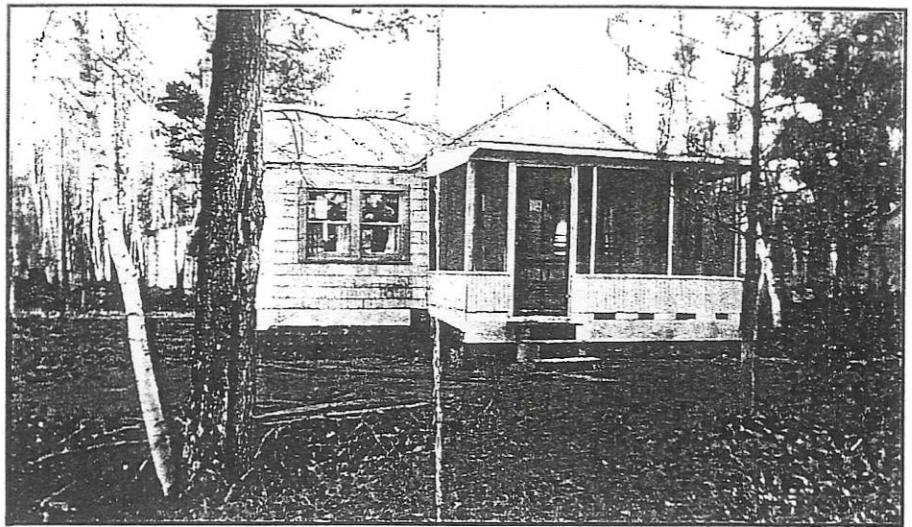
inconvenienced when the new bridge was being built. When the new bridge was finished, cabin owners were all invited to a party hosted by George Bahr at Dale's North Mound in celebration.

The Town Dump

The town dump officially closed in the fall of 1988. This ended the Saturday morning get-togethers and the opportunity to search for valuable treasures. The truck pictured was not part of the discards.



Old Lovelace
Cabin circa
1961.
(south side)



CLARK COUNTY State of Wisconsin		TAX RECEIPT		TAX ROLL		VALUATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY		NO. 133				
PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES OF 1962		PAGE 12	LINE 8	A	B	150						
ORIGINAL ASSIGNED AGAINST	<i>Brad Lovelace</i> 2802 Highland St. LaCrosse, Wis.		TAKING DISTRICT									
			State Tax Rate		.000341							
			County "		.012130					GENERAL P. P. TAX A		
			Town "		.005828					LESS STATE CREDIT		
			G School "		.022500					BALANCE DUE (A)		
			T School "		.023100					GENERAL P. P. TAX B		
			H. S. T & T "		.015960					LESS STATE CREDIT		
					TAX RATE						BALANCE DUE (B)	
											SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	
											OCCUPATIONAL TAX	
								TOTAL AMOUNT PAID				
								5.43				

IF PAYMENT IS MADE BY CHECK, TAX RECEIPT IS NOT VALID UNTIL CHECK HAS CLEARED ALL BANKS.

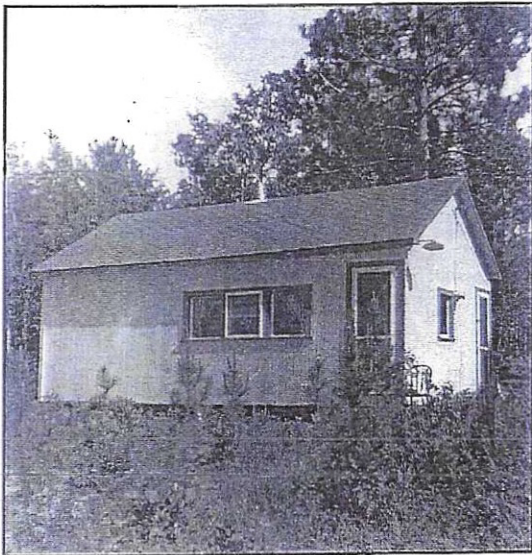
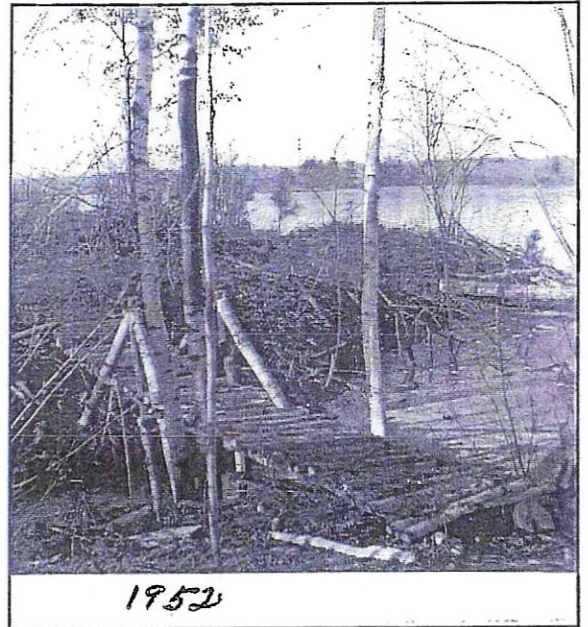
DATE PAID *Mar 2* 1962

SIGNED BY *Mrs. Gertrude L. Barth* LOCAL TREASURER

1962 Property Tax Receipt for cabin on Mead lake.

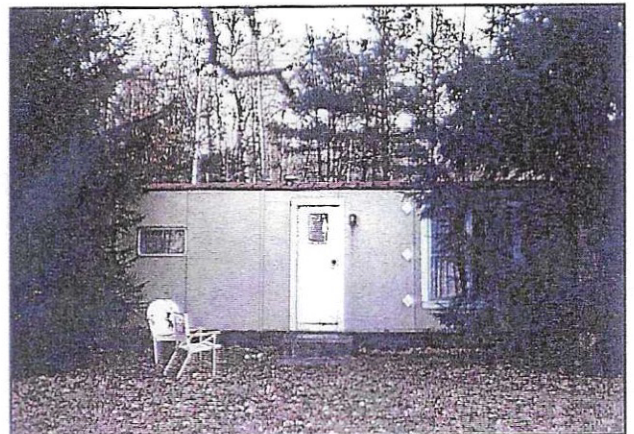
YES! You are reading that correctly - only five dollars and forty-three cents!

Bridge to cross inlet
between Larson's and
Schwenn's cabins. 1952.
(south side, near dam)



Old Hibbard cabin
1952.
(south side of lake)

Old Ayers cabin
(South side of lake)



Mead Lake Club Signs circa 1980



Sign for north side of lake

Sign for south side of lake



MEAD LAKE

by Dale Thomas

June 10, 1993

In 1957, Jerry Sowieja, Billy Stabnow and I, Dale Thomas, leased some of the last lots left on Mead Lake. There wasn't any road into our lots. We cut the road in, that you now call Wills Loop. We cleared the trees and brush off the lots and took a tractor and quack digger to clean up the land. Our children were small and we used to leave the trunk open on the car with baby blankets and the smallest ones sleeping in the trunk while we worked evenings cleaning up the lots. We had the lots a few years before we could afford to build a cabin on them. When I built mine, I could only afford a shell. We put the plumbing in but didn't have a pressure system. We carried water from our divan point for a few years before we could afford to have a well drilled. As the years went by, we added on and finished the inside. I hauled in rocks and lined the shoreline to keep from losing any more shoreline. I had several loads of black dirt hauled in to spread on my lawn, which I did all with a wheelbarrow. I hauled many loads of gravel and spread on our road and smoothed it with a tractor and blade as that was a private road for many years before we managed to get the township to call it a town road so they would grade it. We had some large oak trees blow over, which we cut up and dug the stumps out by hand with a pick and shovel.

When they drained the lake and killed all of the fish, we helped clean up the dead fish.

I planted all of the pine trees on my lot. I got full of poison ivy transplanting some wild roses from my folks' farm to my lot.

For several years, we used to catch fish below the dam and carry them up and turn them loose above the dam. We only took the walleyes and muskies up above the dam.

As far as I know, I think the Mead Lake citizen association was the beginning of the Mead Lake Club. I may be wrong, but it seems to be that that is what it was called at first.

No one had much money so we all tried to improve our lot as best we could with whatever means we could.

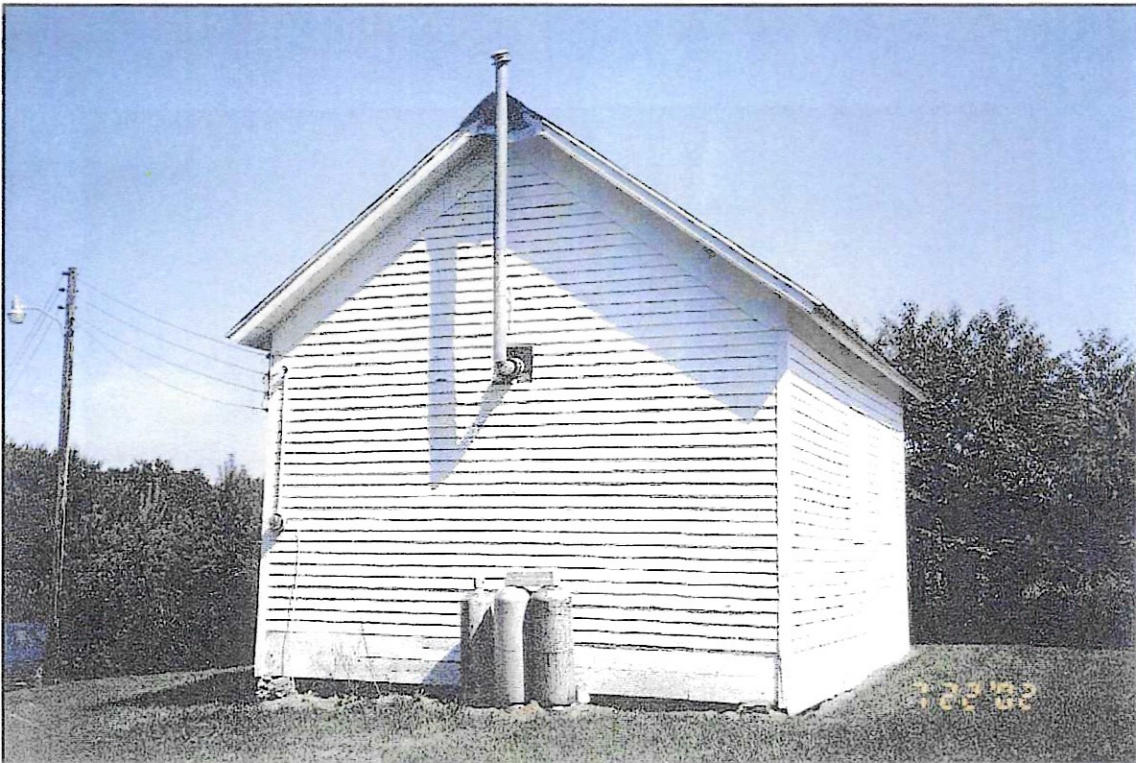
The county and township had laid out a few rules that we all had to follow. Some that I remember was that you couldn't install a trailer house. We had a few years to build a permanent structure and if you didn't get it built, the county would cancel your lease. Even back then we had to get permission to install rip-rap on the shoreline. The lots were 75 ft. wide and the length was determined by how far it was to the road. I furnished all of the metal stakes that was put in when they surveyed the lake. The county brought them from me. Buckwheel Jolivette made the arrangements for me to cut the stakes to length and furnish the material for them. He worked for the county at that time. I would guess this was sometime in 1957. I think the club started about that same time. In 1957 or 58. I went to Milwaukee in 1959 and it seems like the club was already going then but I may be wrong. This is just guessing. I have been in it ever since it started. I think Ray Hoffman was the first president.

That's about all I can think of for now.

Dale Thomas

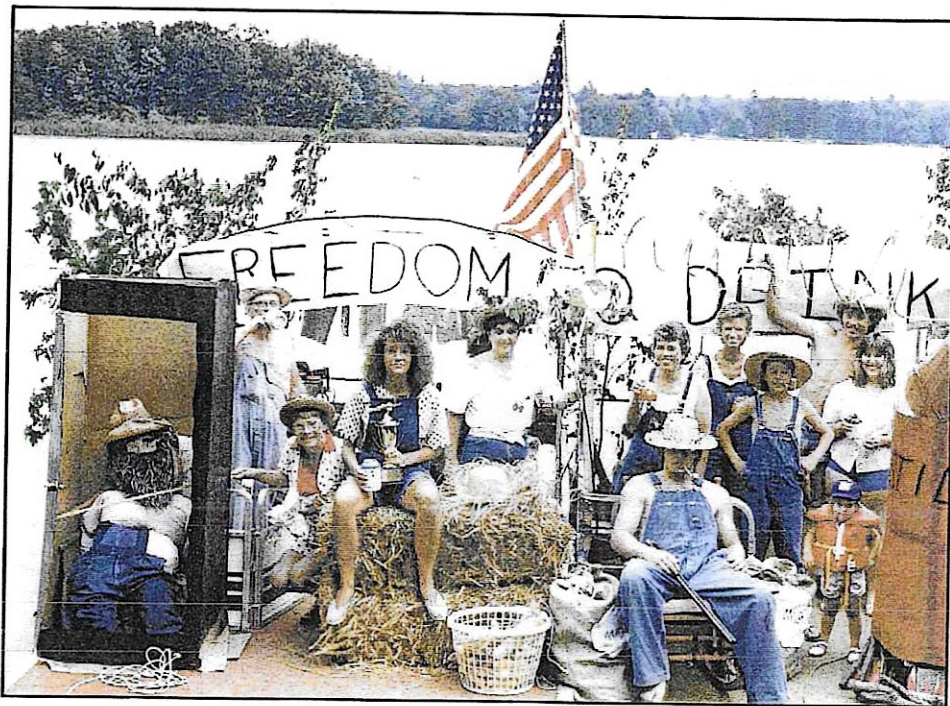


7 22 '82



7 22 '82

The "Good Times"



And

The "Not So Good Times"

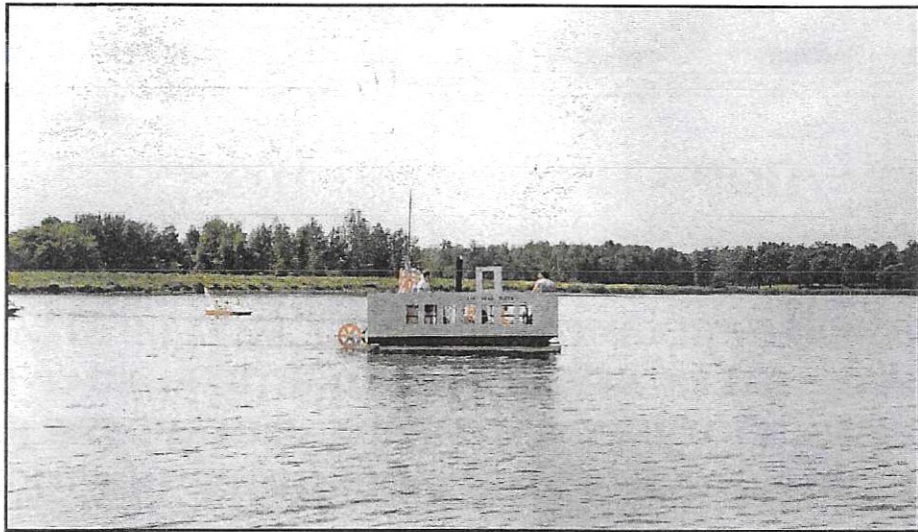
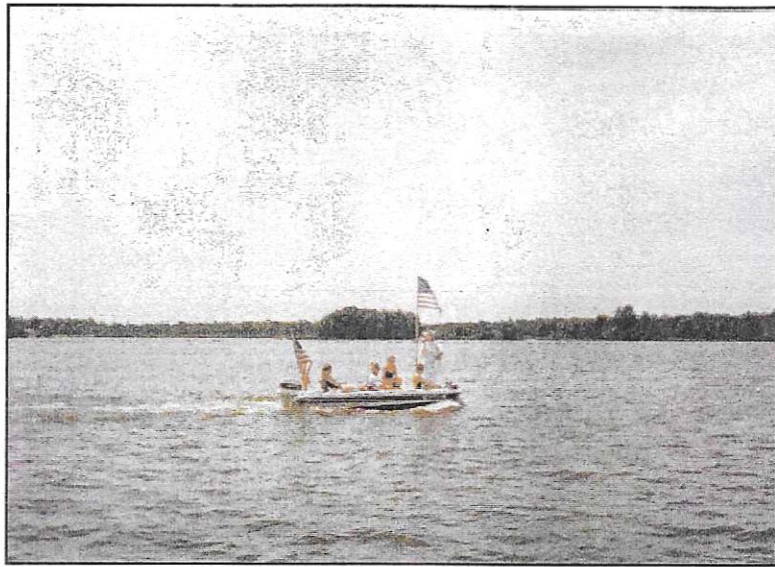




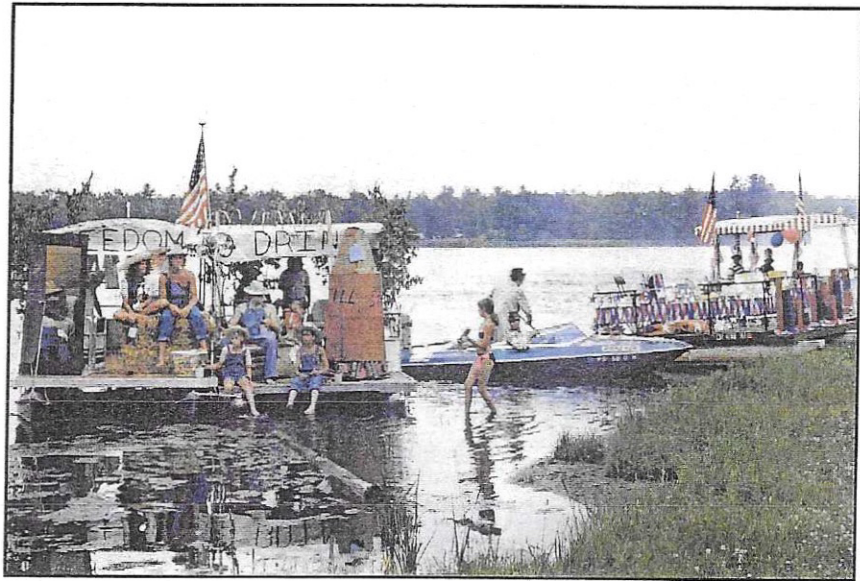
GOOD TIMES ON MEAD LAKE

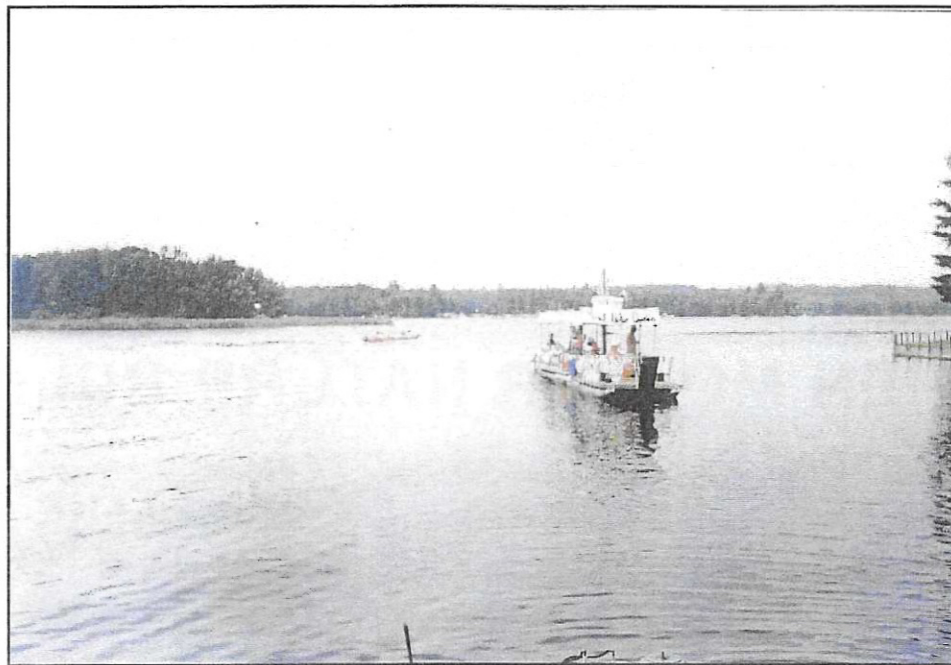
THERE HAVE BEEN MANY ACTIVITIES ON MEAD LAKE THAT CAN BE CONSIDERED “GOOD TIMES”. THEY INCLUDE STEAK FRIES, BRAT FEEDS, DALES ANNUAL GET-TOGETHER, BOAT PARADES (HELD ON THE 4TH OF JULY) AND THIS YEAR CARP DAYS. SO ENJOY SOME OF THE PICTURES OF THE “GOOD TIMES” GET TOGETHERS.











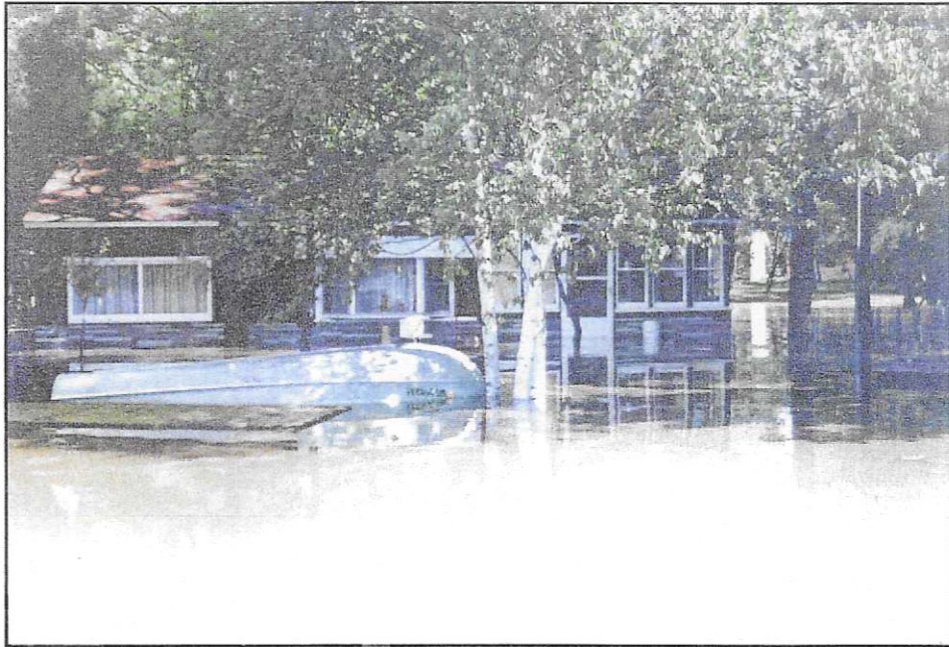
Once the work was done, the fun began. You usually toured the whole lake as a group and then would meet at the South Side Park. Sometimes just to laugh & talk, other times to enjoy brats & beer. These definitely were the “good times”.



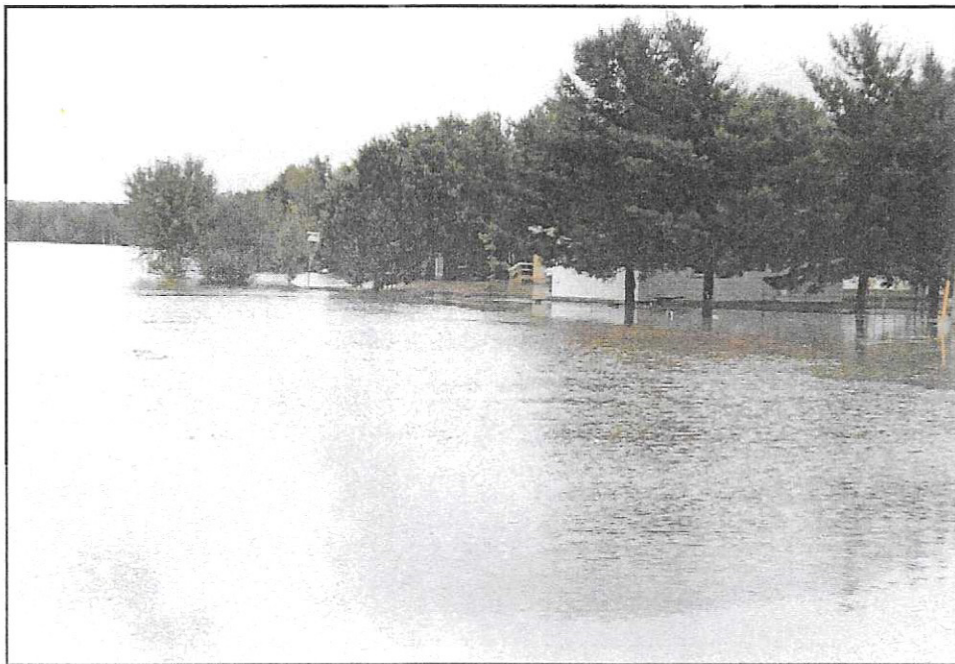
WHEN MOTHER NATURE RULES

IF YOU HAVE BEEN AROUND ON MEAD LAKE FOR A FEW YEARS, YOU REMEMBER WHEN SHE “RULED” OUR LAKE. THIS IS A PICTURE OF THE DAMN WHEN ALL OF THE GATES ARE OPENED TO TRY AND CONTROL THE RUSH OF WATER THAT WE USUALLY SEE 8 - 12 HOURS AFTER IT HAS RAINED NORTH OF US. THE TWO MOST MEMORABLE FLOODS WERE IN 1982 AND 1993 --- LOOK OUT FOR 2003 (it seems to happen every 10 years).

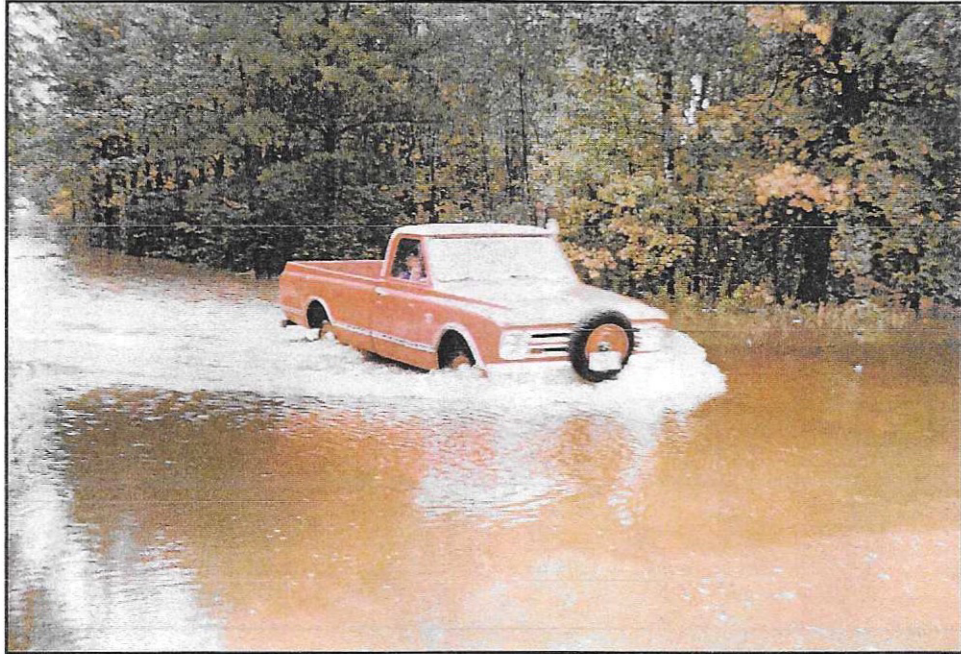
1982



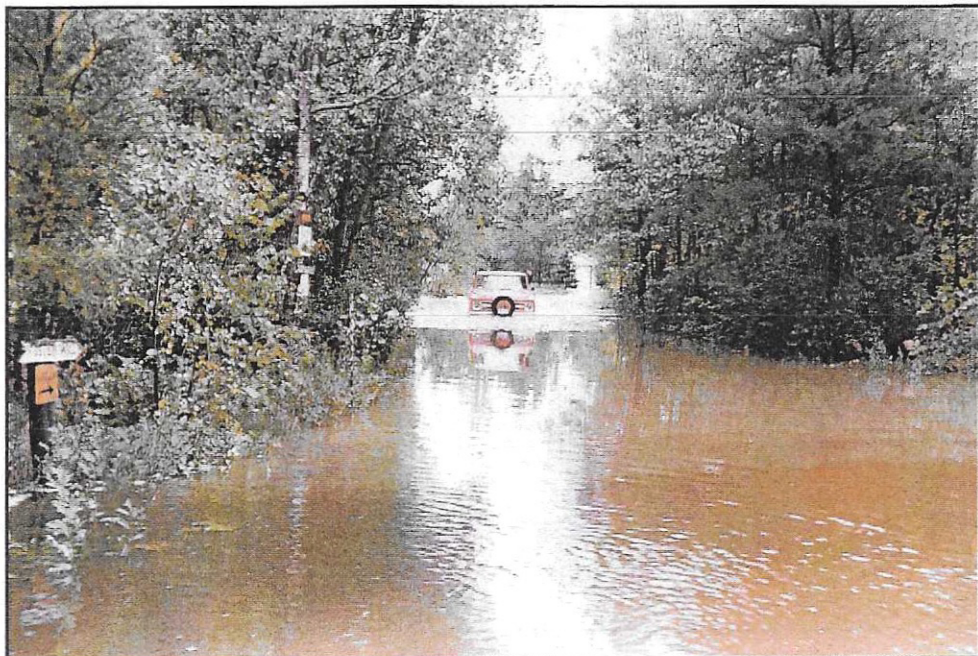
**Some of the cabins had over 36” of water inside.
Clean up was a “huge” job.**



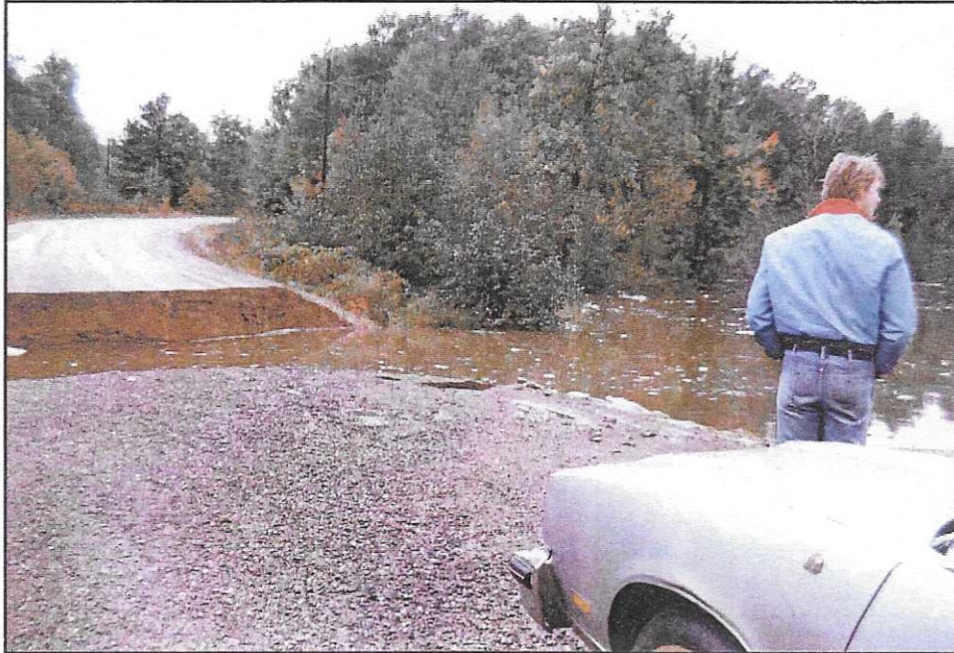
1982



Most of the roads and driveways were impassable.



1982

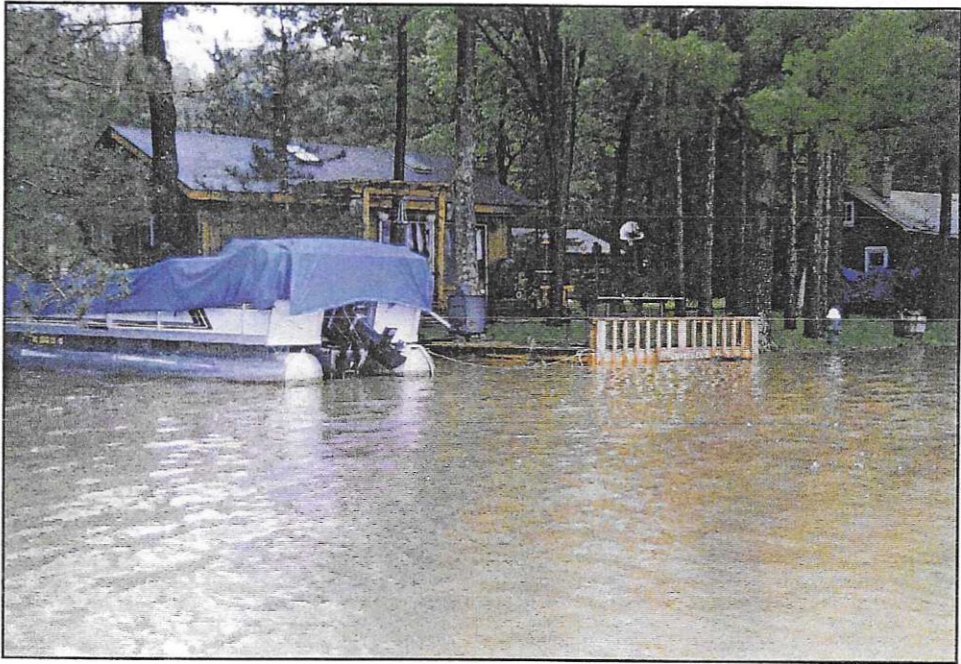


South Lake Road washout

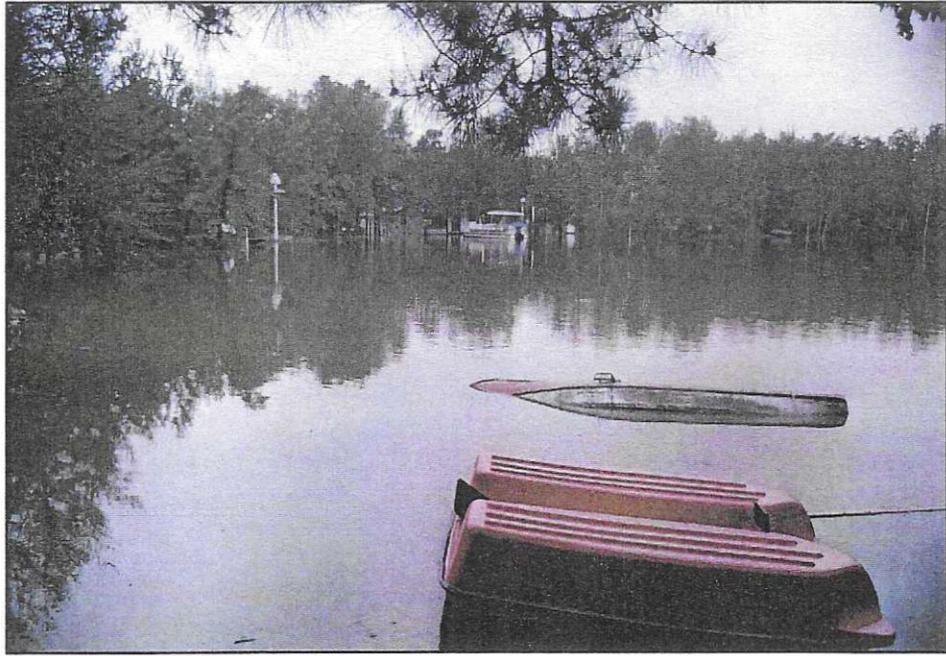
After a flood - the debris left behind creates a “mess” that is not easy to clean up.



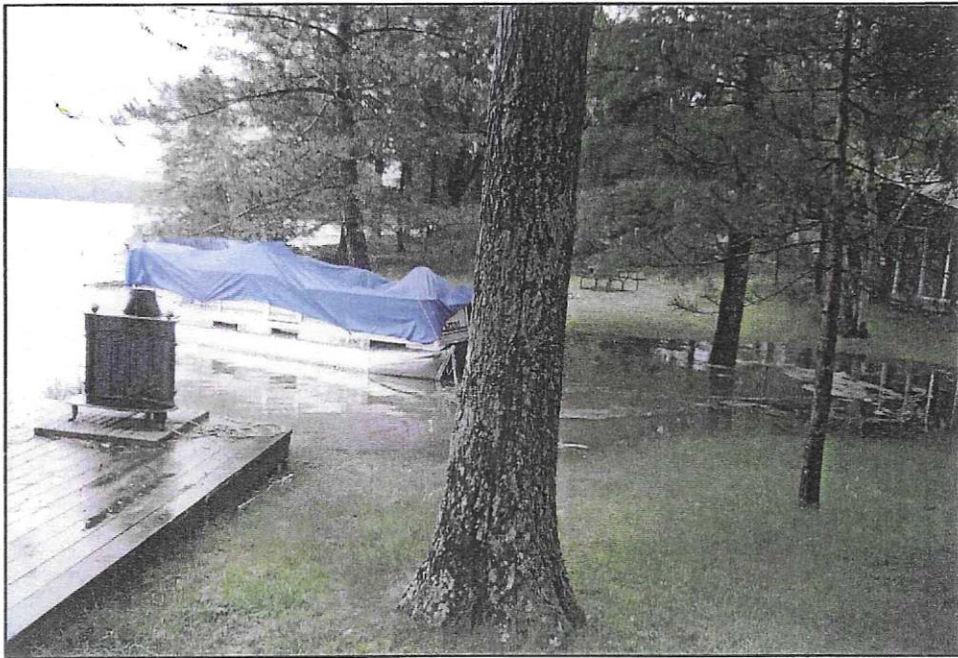
1993



1993



**“How high is the water ma ma?”
“2 feet high and rising.”**



1993



**Once again, all roads became impassable.
This is South Lake Road in '93.**



1993



**If you lived on South Lake Road,
there was no way to leave.
There was major road damage
no matter if you went East or West.**



1993



**Hopefully, this will be the last
picture taken of a flood on
Mead Lake.**

MEAD LAKE'S FIRST ANNUAL CARP DAYS



2002

Seeing this was our "First" Carp Days and that Mother Nature did not cooperate (the carp were not as active as hoped) the weekend turned out to be a success. There were 32 carp taken out of the lake.

On Sunday, we had a chicken feed. By the end of the day, when we were all very tired and all the chicken was gone, then and there, we decided to call it a "SUCCESS".

There are too many people and businesses to list who donated their time and products, so we will just give each and everyone one of you a huge "THANK YOU".



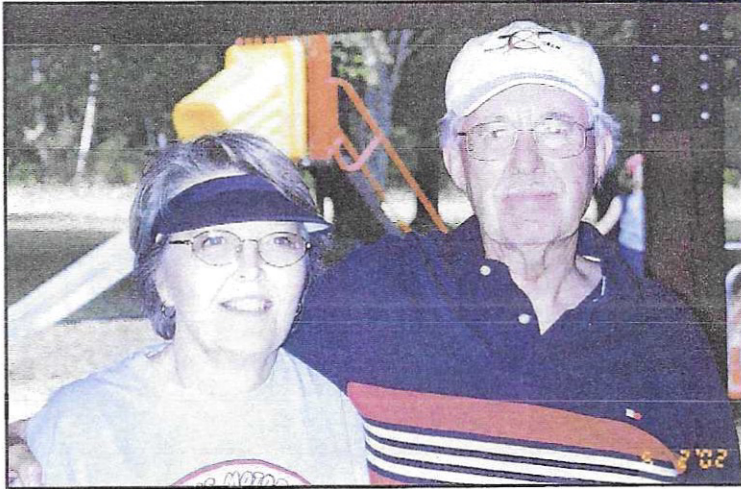
One of the boats used during “Carp Days” on Mead Lake. The best time to shoot carp is the “wee early” morning. Instead of fishing with poles, the carp are shot with bows.



Some of the “Carp Shooters” and their “catch of the day”.



Some of the carp were picked up and taken home for smoking. The rest was handled by “Barrs” animal food business.



**The chicken feed
was held on
Sunday, June 2,
2002 at the park
by the dam. The
“Feast” consisted
of chicken, baked
beans, chips and
buns.**





We hope that you enjoy this book.

***We want to “Thank”
The Trierweiler Family
for donating the money that
made this book possible.***

***The first 50 years definitely had
its “ups and downs” but the lake
is still here and hopefully
will be here to celebrate its 100th.***

