

# WOCA Fall 2017 Newsletter

*Editor – Laurel Steffes*

News shorts and heads-ups:

## **Outdoor related writing position available:**

DNR Full Time Communications Specialist, Madison, Applications Due 9/18/17, \$54,000 to \$66,500 annually.

[http://wisc.jobs/public/job\\_view.asp?annoid=92582&jobid=92096&org=370&class=12363&index=true](http://wisc.jobs/public/job_view.asp?annoid=92582&jobid=92096&org=370&class=12363&index=true)

## **Mark your calendars for the 2018 annual meeting:**

WOCA has locked in Trees for Tomorrow in Eagle River for our 2018 annual meeting July 20-22, 2018. Remember those days of doubling and tripling up in the cabins? They're gone. For the last two years we have had two full cabins with almost all private rooms. The Friday cookout has become quite an event and we have enjoyed some great speakers, a silent auction and camaraderie on Saturday. We had 30 paid members attending this year; let's break that modern record next year.

## **WOCA membership is strong:**

We currently have 58 enrolled members, and this year we reinstated membership cards. In the business meeting, members voted to share membership information on the WOCA website. That will happen late this year. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO HAVE YOUR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION SHARED ON OUR WEBSITE, YOU NEED TO OPT OUT. PLEASE EMAIL LAUREL.STEFFES2GMAIL.COM TO OPT OUT.

Membership information will include your name, any WOCA office, web address, phone number, and communication specialty. We will not share spouse names or home addresses.

## **WOCA Awards 2017 Scholarship:**

**Stevens Point, WI** – The Wisconsin Outdoor Communicators Association (WOCA) in cooperation with the Outdoor Heritage Education Center (OHEC) has awarded its annual scholarship to University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point undergraduate student Shay Spatz of Westfield, WI. Her application featured a video presentation on the Candlelight Hike UW-Stevens Point has every semester at the nature reserve on campus. She was the multimedia reporter for the school newspaper, The Pointer, during the making of the video. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EvF5rtQdB7A> Spatz is completing a degree in media communication with a minor in environmental communication and hopes to become a documentary filmmaker and documentary photographer for the national parks...(Full release noted above.)

## **2018 Scholarship applications sought:**

The Wisconsin Outdoor Communicators Association and the Outdoor Heritage Education Center are proud to once again offer a scholarship to a graduate or undergraduate student interested in outdoor recreational communication. The scholarship award is \$1,500 plus additional benefits/opportunities. Our goal is to encourage and support student interest in communicating information about outdoor recreational activities through print, radio social media and television. Applications, due January 17, 2018, will consist of a student cover letter outlining their interest in outdoor recreation communication; an original article, radio or TV presentation; and recommendation of a professor or advisor.

Applications may be submitted by U.S. mail or electronically and will be judged by a panel of three WOCA members. Besides \$1,500 in support, winning applicants will have an opportunity to attend the annual 2018 WOCA conference and to interact with working outdoor writers and news media. Funding

for the WOCA/OHEC scholarship is provided by proceeds from the annual silent auction, a \$500 contribution from OHEC, a donation of \$250 from WOCA member Jenny Sereno, and contributions from members like Tim Eisele and WOCA officers. The full scholarship flyer and letter to financial offices is above. It has been emailed to all UW campuses and many private universities. Feel free to share it. WOCA Scholarship Committee members are Art Barlow, Bob Wilberscheid and Laurel Steffes.

*Here's where I make my pitch.....Got info for the newsletter? Won an award? Heard of a job someone might find of interest? Trade hint? Please send them to me at: [Laurel.Steffes@gmail.com](mailto:Laurel.Steffes@gmail.com)*

*Laurel Steffes*



#### **Draft 2017 business meeting minutes**

If you missed the meeting, the draft minutes may help you catch up. If you attended, please review the minutes and send any additions or corrections to me. Thanks. The minutes are attached.

#### **Bylaws update**

Pat asked members to review the WOCA bylaws in anticipation of updating them at the 2018 meeting. The 2005 bylaws will be emailed with an upcoming WOCA newsletter, at which time we'll solicit feedback from the members. The recommendations will be discussed and voted on at the July 2018 conference. The bylaws are posted on the website.

#### **2016 Minutes approved**

The 2016 minutes were approved at the business meeting and are attached.

### **Shooting fees in Wisconsin State Parks**

At the meeting, Dan Small raised a concern that he had been approached by a DNR employee when he was shooting a segment at a state park. The employee indicated he needed a \$50 permit and model release. (Picture murmurs and frowns around the room in the business meeting.) DNR has clarified the policy for WOCA: a section of NR 45.04 requires a permit for taking photos for commercial purposes: [https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin\\_code/nr/001/45/04/3/f](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/nr/001/45/04/3/f) as in using the park for shooting a commercial; it didn't apply to Dan's situation. The employee was in error.

#### **(f) Soliciting.**

NR 45.04(3)(f)1. **1.** No person may solicit or collect funds or peddle or solicit business of any nature, post signs or distribute handbills or advertising matter unless first authorized by contractual agreement.

NR 45.04(3)(f)2. **2.** In addition to the requirements of subd. 1., in the state parks, state recreation areas and southern forests, no person may engage in commercial filming or photography or provide services for a fee that involves the provider's physical presence in the state park, state recreation area or southern forest unless first authorized by contractual agreement or a department commercial use permit.

If Dan were there as a contractor shooting -- for example, a Cabela's commercial — the fee would have applied. There was also a question as to whether one needs to have a release to shoot pictures. Bottom line, what you know and were taught about releases applies: If people in the park are part of the landscape and not the subject of the photo, no release is required. Trust your knowledge of copyright law; you are much more likely to know and understand it than the average person.

### **Copper bullets**

A question was raised at the meeting about sources for copper bullets and whether any WOCA members were reloading copper bullets and where to get supplies. If you are, would you consider sharing info with the group? Here's some information from Glenn Helgeland's source Mike Bruss: Barnes makes the most complete line of copper bullets and are available most places reloading bullets are sold. They are expensive, the price for 50 is about what you would pay for a box of 100 lead bullets. They are generally as accurate as good jacketed lead bullets. Performance is excellent as to reliable expansion and retained mass (for penetration) but they give up a little to lead in density so they aren't quite as efficient through the air.

### **WOCA support of disabled veterans**

Art Barlow was asked by the WOCA membership to seek Rep. Nick Milroy's (Milroy was a speaker at the 2017 annual meeting) help in establishing an account that would benefit Wisconsin's Disabled Veterans when buying hunting and fishing licenses. Currently, Wisconsin offers discounts for disabled Vets when they purchase a license, but there is still an out-of-pocket expense. WOCA is considering establishing an account from which DNR could take funds to cover the vets' out-of-pocket expense.

Art contacted DNR personnel and everyone thought it was a great idea, but told him it would take legislative action to create such an account. Jim Bishop, a new WOCA member from Spooner, has indicated his Veterans group would contribute to such an account if it existed. Art is Veteran and was a Veterans Educational Certification Officer for over 30 years. Outdoor writers in other states are already doing this.