

THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED CONSERVATIONISTS

Meeting of January 7, 2009
Esquire Club - Madison, WI

ARC President Linda Meyer called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

64 paid members and guests were present, but 65 people were actually there and ate lunch. (Someone forgot to pay).

The meal was \$12.00.

The raffle was not held.

A moment of silence was observed for those who had passed and for our troops who are serving in harms way.

The minutes of the November meeting were read, and approved.

Dave Ives passed around a list of the current members for updating the 2009 directory.

Financial Report:

The opening balance was \$1231.82

We collected \$0.00 from the raffle

We collected \$20.00 from the lunch proceeds. (\$32.00 less the \$12 that we had to pay for one member who forgot to pay).

We collected \$2.00 from one new member.

Closing balance will be \$1253.82 .

The funds collected were handed over to Ken Wiesner.

Guests:

Five persons attended their first meeting:

Pat McCutcheon

Bob Schaefer

Rick Prosis

Tom Niebauer

Curt Awve

Guests who are attending their second meeting and are voted in as new members.

Rick Wojciak

“Frank– Miller Report”

(These are not final numbers)

SWIB returns at the end of November:

-28.3% CORE

-40.9% Variable

The May pension checks will reflect a reduction for most retirees.

The portion of your pension that is in the CORE fund will not go below what it was when you retired, but the Variable fund portion can go below what it was when you retired.

Persons who retired in 2008 will not see a reduction.

The reduction in the CORE fund portion of your pension checks may be around -2.5% to -2.8%.

The reduction in the Variable fund portion of your pension checks may be around -40%.

These would be the largest reductions in pension history.

The CORE fund has a lower reduction this year since it is “smoothed” over a five year period.

For details, people should visit the SWIB website at www.swib.state.wi.us
The site has all of the up-to-date information and tells the whole story,
which you may not get from the media.

Old Business:

The Holiday Party food drive netted two full shopping carts of food and \$20.00 for the food banks. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

Linda Meyer said in order to notify members of a meeting cancelled due to bad weather, our policy will be that if the Madison Metropolitan School District closes their schools, we will also cancel our meeting. On days with questionable weather, members can watch the Madison TV stations to see if the Madison Public Schools are closed.

New Business:

Linda Meyer said that a ARC website was being developed by new member Rick Wojciak. She would report more on it once it was fine tuned and she was also looking for member reactions and ideas.

A motion, and subsequent amendment, was made that we conduct a food and money drive at our annual summer picnic and Holiday Party. A vote was taken and the motion passed. That will now be part of those events.

The ARC – Florida meeting will be hosted by Floyd Stautz at his home at the Eagles Nest Resort on Marco Island on Wednesday **February** 25, 2009. Please contact Floyd for information and tell him if you will be attending..

Linda Meyer asked if she should invite DNR Secretary to speak to the group and the members said yes. Jim Miller volunteered to contact Secretary Frank

Deaths and Illnesses.

No illnesses were reported.

It was reported that:

Bud Gourlie's wife has passed away.

Dave Ives mother-in-law passed away

Mary Ann Shae passed away

Birthdays and anniversaries.

Dave Gjestson and his wife celebrated their 42nd anniversary.

Ed Frank is 76 years young and the Franks celebrated their 55th anniversary.

Guest Speaker:

None

Trips.

Dave Gjestson enjoyed a trip to Peru where among other things, he drank corn beer that had been mixed up in a bucket by an elderly lady. He said it tasted like corn.

Jokes.

Four jokes were told:

Lee Kernan – Four parrots.

Dave Gjeston – Unemployed person

Jim Miller – Bird hunter

Dean Tvedt – Kid with a turkey

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 pm. Our next meeting will be Wednesday February 4, 2009 at the Maple Tree in McFarland.