

# THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED CONSERVATIONISTS

Meeting of May 6th, 2009  
At the New Glarus Hotel

ARC President Linda Meyer called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

54 paid members were present.

The meal was \$12.

The raffle was not held.

A moment of silence was observed for friends and family who have passed and for our troops who are serving in harms way.

The minutes of the March and April minutes were read and approved with a correction to add that Jeanne Witt was the winner of the third raffle prize at the April meeting.

## **Financial report:**

The opening balance was \$1405.

We collected \$54 from lunch proceeds.

The closing balance will be \$1459.

The \$54 was handed over to Linda Meyer.

There were no new guests or members.

Linda Meyer reminded the group that this luncheon we honor "Ingeborg Sidwell - The Mother of our State Retirement System" and asked members to read about Ingeborg if they hadn't already become familiar with her work.

**"Frank & Miller Report"** Very brief. Two and a half % cut in "Core" for the first time. Variable had much more significant cuts. As of the end of March, the market was down 10 % in the Variable and 7.9 % in the Core. Jim and Ed will find out more at the May 20th meeting.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Tom Thoresen reported on the good news/bad news about the state budget. Bad news is that Joint Finance went along with the governor and eliminated 54 employees and all the DNR Service Centers except the Regional Headquarters. The good news was Tom reported that the DNR/DOA attorney consolidation and 8 politically appointed legal heads of State Agencies including DNR was removed from the governor's budget. Much thanks goes to Rick Prosis who assisted in getting this eliminated.

Tom Thoresen suggested since ARC's Mission is both social and conservation, that the ARC Officer's or designee be allowed to officially weigh in on a conservation issue before the legislature or Natural Resources Board on issues like the DNR attorney consolidation. That ARC had voted to support the Independent DNR Secy but should be able to weigh in on other issues where it may assist the cause for conservation. Tom's motion had a friendly amendment by Kermit Traska that suggested that before ARC took a position, ARC Officer's pole members by e-mail to see if members are in agreement with taking a conservation position on an issue. Passed unanimously.

**Death & Illness:** Don Redlin died of heart failure.

**Birthday's & Anniversaries:** None reported

**No Guest Speaker.**

**Trips:** Al Prey reported that he ran the "Crazy Legs Run" again this year and came in 15th for his age group. Way to go Al. He also reported Duane Dupor came in 1st for his age group. Wow - impressive- way to go Duane.

**Jokes:** None told.

Linda Meyer reported on an interesting book about Dwight Eisenhower and explained where the term " whole nine yards" came from.

Linda also reminded members to pick up their invitations to the JULY 1 ARC, Retired DNR Women's summer picnic at Lakeview Park in Middleton.

The meeting adjourned at 1:17 pm.