

THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED CONSERVATIONISTS

Meeting of November 4th, 2009
At the Imperial Gardens, Madison

ARC President Linda Meyer called the meeting to order at 1:18 pm.

69 paid members were present.

The meal was \$11. 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 October meeting were read and approved.

Financial report:

The opening balance was \$1765.50

We collected \$69 from lunch proceeds plus \$10 from new members. John Glennon has those funds

The closing balance will be \$1844.50

New Members and Guests

There were two new guests, Roger Fritz and Marie Stewart.

Attending their second meetings, and voted in as new members were; Lyman Wible, Paulette Harder, Mary Ellen Lins, Debra Martinelli, and Mark Williams.

We collected \$2 membership fees from each, along with their personal information sheets.
[Wible's fee paid in absentia by Jim Miller]

Frank & Miller Report"

The Dow and S&P 500 indexes were relatively flat in October, meaning little change to the 2009 ETF funds gains which were reported as of the end of September to be Variable up 26.9% and CORE up 21.5%.

The increase on 12/31/09 is all that counts. According to ETF, if the Core Fund finishes the year

at +20%, pensions will be reduced by 1.6 to 2.0% in 2010.

Even though the funds managed by SWIB are outperforming their benchmarks, bonuses (incentive compensation plans) for SWIB managers are being deferred.

Anthem /Dental Blueis not enrolling new members. They notified people in April-May that existing members would only be covered until 12/31/09. However, Anthem recently sent an email that said they would enable retirees who continued coverage AND those who had a gap in coverage but were enrolled in 2009, to stay on the plan for 2010.

The State of Wisconsin changed its tax tables this past month. If your withholding changes (decreases) you will be notified.

If you are working, and in the Variable, you must be out by 12/31/09. Paperwork can be submitted at any time, but decisions to leave the Variable are effective on 12/31 regardless.

Old Business:

Tom Thoresen reported on the DNR Secretary Bill. It passed a Senate Committee and is scheduled for a vote by the full Senate on 11/5. You are encouraged to call your Senator about this vote.

Linda Meyer encouraged submissions to the DNR History being accumulated on the ARC website. Emails should be sent to Rick Wojciak. He is creating tabs to accommodate various Bureau histories. The DNR timeline submitted by Bruce Braun is already on the site. Dave Gjestson submitted info on Wildlife Mgt.

Rick Wojciak also requested that folks volunteer to be featured in the monthly profile on the website. He said that more women need to volunteer. Send him an email to get on the 2010 schedule.

The annual Holiday Party will be on Wed. 12/2 at Rex's Innkeeper in Waunakee. **November 24th is the last day to sign up.** Contact John Glennon or Marilyn Howell.

New Business:

Election of ARC Officers for 2010. President Meyer proposed the following slate of candidates who were elected by unanimous consent:

President: Chuck Pils

Vice President: Jim Miller

Secretary/Treasurer: Doris Rusch

Death & Illness:

Gordon Lamphier is home from the hospital but is still having back pain.

Lewis Myers has been ill but is on the mend.

Dave Ives fell in his basement, has had knee and hip replacements, and is recovering well.

Bill Matson also had a fall and is recovering.

Birthday's & Anniversaries:

Joe Rubesch is 86.

Guest Speaker: None

Trips:

Jerry Dorscheid has returned from the Mississippi Gulf where they are still repairing homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

Ken Wiesner just returned from a trip to Fargo/Moorhead following the birth of his first Grandson – Dylan Kenneth Wiesner.

Jokes:

Dave Gjestson reported on a blatant case of racism observed at Home Depot.

Jim Miller gave an uplifting story of a struggling math student who became very motivated after being transferred to Catholic school.

Ron Poff explained that the conclusion of an archaeology study found that Mt. Horeb was wireless.

Kevin Kessler had something to say about Lawyers.

The meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm.

The next meeting is the Holiday Party on December 2nd, at Rex's Innkeeper

Minutes recorded by Ken Wiesner