

Wisconsin Association of Retired Conservationists

the south central
wisconsin
association of
retired
conservationists



Member Survey

Conducted:

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ARC survey

I want to thank you for the chance to serve as your President in 2011. One of the things I have often wondered about was what we wanted the ARC Chapter to do for us. Were there special interests or events the members wanted?

Please take a few minutes to read it over and give us **your thoughts**. Rest assured there are no plans to change things without finding out from you, the members, what your thoughts are.

There are 25 questions in this survey

Part 1 - General

1. In what year did you retire? *

Year retired	Total
1984	1
1986	1
1987	3
1989	1
1990	4
1991	1
1992	1
1994	1
1995	2
1996	6
1997	3
1998	7
1999	6
2000	5
2001	9
2002	6
2004	3
2005	5
2006	3
2007	13
2008	9
2009	5
2010	2
(blank)	3
Grand Total	100

2. How long have you been an ARC member? *

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- 0-5 years
- 6-10 years
- 11-15 years
- 15-20 years
- 20-25 years
- 25+ years
-

ARC member	Total
0-5 years	46
6-10 years	23
11-15 years	18
15-20 years	4
20-25 years	6
25+	0
(blank)	3
Grand Total	100

3. How many meetings do you attend per year? *

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- 0-2 meetings
- 3-5 meetings
- 6-8 meetings
- 9-11 meetings
- All Meetings
-

Meetings per year?	Total
0-2 meetings	22
3-5 meetings	42
6-8 meetings	17
9-11 meetings	15
All Meetings	1
(blank)	3
Grand Total	100

4. Does the location of the meeting weigh into your decision to attend? *

- Yes
- No
-

Does location matter?	Total
Yes	44
No	53
N/A	3
(blank)	
Grand Total	100

5. If Yes, How many miles are you willing to drive to a meeting?

Miles to meeting?	Total
10	4
15	5
20	4
25	9
30	9
35	5
40	3
45	1
50	9
60	2
	6
(blank)	43
Grand Total	100

COMMENTS:
20 mile radius around Madison area
25 (how about promoting ride pooling?)
30miles - one way
50 miles round-trip
Depends on quality of venue
Depends on the Season but up to 15
drive miles
it's not how far it's where it is held
It's not the miles, but the choice of restaurants.
not an issue so whatever it takes.
Not the location, but what is served
we live in Florida
whatever it takes

6. How often to you think ARC should meet? *

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Monthly
- Every other Month
- Quarterly
- Twice a Year
- Once a Year

Meet how often	Total
Monthly	68
Every other Month	26
Quarterly	3
Twice a Year	0
Once a Year	0
(blank)	3
Grand Total	100

7. Do you come to ARC for: *

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

	No	Yes	Uncertain	(blank)	Total
Social Reasons	1	95	1	3	100
The Food	32	43	21	3	99
Find out what is happening in people's lives	2	90	5	3	100
Hear Guest Speakers	28	44	23	4	99

8. Do you read the WARC online website: *

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Monthly
- Once every couple of months
- Just a couple of times a year

Read website?	Total
Monthly	49
Once every couple of months	32
Just a couple of times a year	12
(blank)	3
Grand Total	96

9. What features or changes would you recommend for the online WARC newsletter to improve it?

COMMENTS:
Can't think of anything -- it's great.
eliminate reading of the minutes
I don't see any unmet needs of the newsletter. It is very good.
I feel the news letter is fine. Thanks for all your efforts!!!!
I have problems with my computer and miss some of the issues
I think it is a pretty awesome website now. Especially like all the photos.
I think it is good as it is.
I think it looks great now! Great Job!
I think it's great just the way it is.
I think our organization would be a stronger, healthier organization if we had a purpose and the purpose should be to feed Wisconsin's poor. We should organize to raise a large annual donation to local food pantries and Second Harvest. During these hard times, we retired state employees are pretty comfortable in spite of losing benefits the last couple of years. There are a lot of Wisconsin citizens that are in real trouble and we should help.
I think the newsletter is great the way it is.
it is just fine.
It's fine now.
It's fine the way it is...
It's great as is
It's great as it is. We just have to use it more. This survey is a good example of using it more-and more effectively! For the door prize just allocate part of the money collected as the door prize-ca.10-15 dollars.
Just fine now. Since I live out of town and only make 1 or 2 meetings and/or summer picnic and Christmas party, the newsletter keeps me informed on what's happening.
keep as is
Keep the Frank-N-Miller report! The retirement fund and related health/benefit package(s) info is very important to me. Also, info on Medicare and its changes are equally important when available.
less time spent on business meetings. I go there to see old friends and chat
more current pictures. A more detailed review of the Frank N Miller report for those who missed the live performance. It is always a good factual update on the issues that everyone should be aware of.
More of the sort of info re our pension system, Medicare, etc. that is often covered at the meetings.
more organized "links" when appropriate
More solicitations for newsletter participation. For example, "Trip Tips" is a great idea, but no one is reminded when they report on a trip at the monthly meeting to submit a summary. I'd like to see a "Do you remember?" column with brief memories of members about some past WCD or DNR event. Like,

"Do you remember DNR uniforms?" followed by a brief history of what they were and why. How about, "Where were you when the Kellett Commission was implemented and how did it affect your job? Pictures are such a great feature of the newsletter. I think random pictures at monthly meetings are fun entertainment to see later.
No ideas
no special need for changes at this time in my opinion
No thoughts
None
None
None - it is good. I like looking at photos.
None. I don't read it
None--it's o.k.
Nothing major - it works for me. I wonder if members would use a carpooling feature. They could e-mail Rick to list their need to find a ride to the next meeting or anyone could go onto the WARC site to see who needs a ride and call the rider.
Nothing that I can think of--liked the way it went, but haven't been there for many years
Nothing, you are doing an excellent job. Your pay must be good.
Provide more up to date minutes of meetings.
shorten it
So far it looks quite good to me.
The newsletter is excellent. I can't think of how to improve it, but would be interested in others' ideas. It's been a very valuable resource for me, since I often can't attend the monthly meetings.
The website is great! Maybe a photo section where members could upload photos relating to conservation issues, something special they're doing, or just other ARC friends. Maybe like Facebook on a very small scale. (I seldom use Facebook, but social interaction of ARC members might be interesting and informative). Lots of folks like social networking. /we'd probably learn much more about one another.
When I started, the "treasury" was about \$250. Now it is about \$2,000 (my memory may be faulty, but I believe it is quite high). It is good to remember those that have passed on without passing the hat. However, when the treasury builds up, then people want to do something with the money -- and then the arguing starts about where it should go. People can support causes on their own and ARC can even encourage people to do so, but not with ARC's money. Let's keep a cushion in the treasury but not build it up to a bundle!
You do a great job!

10. Do you feel the monthly door prize raffle is a practice that should continue? *

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Yes
- No

Continue door prize?	Total
Yes	42
No	54
N/A	3
(blank)	
Grand Total	99

11. If Yes, would you be willing to donate a \$10-15 item?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Yes
- No

Donate a door prize?	Total
Yes	42
No	53
N/A	3
(blank)	
Grand Total	98

Part 2 - Food

About the meal we have every month

12. Please rate the restaurants in order of your preference, (with 1=Most Favorite, 5=Least Favorite): *

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

Rating	Esquire Club	Hilltop	Imperial	Maple Tree	New Glarus
1	12	2	38	15	39
2	21	20	28	19	24
3	20	28	10	35	14
4	21	15	11	14	9
5	23	27	5	9	6
(blank)	7	7	7	7	7

13. Do you have restaurants to recommend? and do you think they are able to host us?

COMMENTS:
1855 Saloon in Cottage Grove (http://www.1855saloongrill.com/) It's at the end of the bike trail, and would be a far better eastern Dane County option to the Maple Tree. Better food, better beer, better atmosphere.
Any is OK. Catching up with retirees is much more important than the restaurant.
Benvenuto's ??? Fitchburg
Cafe Continental on Fish Hatchery Rd. in Fitchburg is a possibility.
Capital Brewery, Great Dane
Don't know
Dorf Haus in Roxbury. They would like to do it.
Essen Haus, not open for lunch except for groups.
Fitzgerald's in Middleton.
How's about a brew-pub restaurant?
I haven't been to enough meetings yet to adequately rate the restaurants, so you should throw out my ranking above. I liked the New Glarus Hotel alot.
I haven't been to the Maple Tree so hesitate giving it a rating.
I would like to have a choice of a low carb option that does not include fried food.
I'd like to see us add an Italian restaurant. I don't have a specific one in mind. I've not eaten at Benvenuto's but I thought someone said it might be able to accommodate us.
JB's grill in Sun Prairie. Yes they can host us
Keystone Grill in Cambridge. (maybe too far from Madison?)
Most of the ones I know of don't have a set-up where we could have a separate room and a bar.
Nora's II used to be on our list and had good food. Dorf Haus in Roxbury. Coliseum Bar. Rex's Innkeeper is getting a little old.

Not really since I don't live in the Madison area any longer.
One of the Great Dane pubs no idea if they can host us
Paisan's restaurant downtown. They have plenty of room.
Pooleys on the East Side of Madison
The new Great Dane on Madison's East Side just east of the interstate off of Cottage Grove Road. We should be looking for a new place for the Christmas Meeting! The Innkeeper has very MEDIOCRE Banquet food! How much more would it cost to have it at one of the hotels-like the Concourse-I'm sure they can accommodate at least 150 people. Also are there reasonably priced alternatives to a Buffet?
The Wildcat in Verona had very good food.
Village Green in Middleton
We used to go to the bowling alley in Verona and I thought the food was good. Would they still take us? How about the Great Dane on Fish Hatchery Rd - not sure how food would be handled or how big their extra room is.
West Side Businessmen's Club - Junction Rd??? Wildcat Lanes - Verona ???
Will give this some thought.
Owls Nest in Poynette
Noras II
Holiday Inn on American Parkway
Fitzgerald's in Middleton
Rex's Innkeeper in Waunakee, more than just the holiday party

14. Are you interested in going to additional ethnic restaurants? (ie. Asian, Italian, Mexican) *

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Yes
- No

Ethnic restaurants?	Total
Yes	73
No	20
N/A	6
(blank)	
Grand Total	99

15. If Yes, can you recommend one?

COMMENTS:
Bandung - may not be large enough for group
Benevenutos
Benvenutos - but not sure if they can accommodate that many people. We have the women's fall luncheon at the one in Fitchburg. There's also one on the North side of town.
Benvenuto's ???
Benvenuto's in Fitchburg, although I don't know whether they can handle a big crowd.
Biaggi's in Middleton. Benvenutos in Fitchburg.
Dorf Haus in Roxbury.
Inca Heritage (Park Street in Madison), Vientienne Palace (Park Street again)
Is there a Mexican Restaurant that can handle 50 to 60 people?? How about Pedro's on East Washington?
Lombardinos

Love any of them
No recommendation
Not familiar enough since things change so fast in Madison--I know there are a lot of new places out in Middleton
Not sure if they could handle the group without an actual count
Olive Garden, Pedro's
Pedros
Pedros
Pedro's
Pedro's
Pedros Marias in Oregon but don't know if they would host a meeting
Pedros - Olive Garden
Pedro's P. F. Chang
Pedros East
Pedro's east or west.
The retired DNR ladies group has gone to Benvenuto's (on PD in Fitchburg) and have been very pleased. They will even give us separate checks.
There must be some good Mexican Restaurants that can accommodate 60+ people in a somewhat separated dining area.
Tutto Pasta on King st Glass Nickel on Atwood
Benvenuto's

16. Do you think it is important to have a summer picnic? *

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Yes
- No

Summer picnic?	Total
Yes	64
No	30
N/A	6
(blank)	
Grand Total	100

17. If Yes, What could we do to improve the picnic?

COMMENTS:
a good caterer that starts on time.
After last year's, we should probably look at different caterers! And since a lot of people bring beer/coolers, could we look into getting a couple of cases of beer and just have those who drink it pay extra upfront or at the picnic?
be sure caterer is on time
Can't think of anything
Change caterers for sure since they screwed up last year and maybe were late the year before too. A simpler menu with hamburgers and brats and the usual picnic food would be okay with me.
dancing girls
find a caterer that shows up
Fine as is.

Guarantee timely food delivery
Have some activities or have people bring some of their hobbies. Have something besides just visiting.
Have the caterer show up on time.
Haven't attended one yet.
Haven't been to one yet
Haven't made it to the picnic yet.
I have been to 3. I don't have an issue with any part of it. last summers delay was out of the organizers control. gave everyone more time to chat
I haven't attended any
I like it the way it has been. Keep including spouses
I said yes to the previous question mostly because more people seem to come to the picnic, both men and women. I think the format is fine.
I think it is fine. The caterer is great and so is Carl Blabaum.
I'm all for having a summer picnic but recently we have had conflicts and have been unable to attend.
improve picnic?
I've never been to one.
make sure the caterer shows up.
Make sure the food is on time.
Maybe some sort of interactive game that would call out member's names and they would have to pass something on or do something. I'll have to think about it... something where folks get more acquainted with their ARC-mates. But, for the most part, the picnic is a time to socialize with folks you may not see often.
More live music or music via stereo or maybe some games like bocci ball or croquet.
No changes
not a thing
Only attended one, but it was fun. Reminding the caterer that it is coming sounded necessary last year.
people seem to like the picnic.
Possibly move it to a number of new locations, e.g. the park shelter in Waunakee or one of the state parks on the Madison lakes. I like both the picnic and the Christmas party as it gives an opportunity for our spouses, etc. to socialize with old friends.
Outdoor games

18. Do you think it is important of have a holiday party? *

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Yes
- No

Holiday party?	Total
Yes	66
No	28
N/A	6
(blank)	
Grand Total	100

19. How could we do to improve the holiday party?

COMMENTS:
Better choice of food
Change the location to a better restaurant.
could we have it later in the day?
Don't attend as we are gone for the winter
Eliminate singing by members and play recorded music instead.
Except for the singing, I think it's great the way it is. Could do w/o the singing!
Find a new Venue with better banquet food!
Good as is.
Have some activities or have people bring some of their hobbies. Have something besides just visiting.
i am okay with the Innkeeper. but perhaps others might want it geographically revolving. like ? ? Dodgeville or more north.
I can't come on Wed noon's and would come if it were any other day.
I enjoyed myself
I like it. Keep including spouses
I think it is fine with how it is now.
I think it's nice to get together in December, as in other months, but don't believe the December/holiday luncheon needs to be any different than any other (singing, gifts, etc.).
Improve holiday party?
It's a Christmas Party!
It's fine.
longer social hour before meal
more dancing girls
more sing alongs
No changes
Not interested
Perhaps have fewer raffle items--90 are quite a few to sit through.
Reduce the cost.
Same as the picnic, more people seem to come of both genders.
Select a restaurant that has good acoustics
Something that involves the whole group a little more. I've an idea (maybe not a good one) about distributing door prizes. How bout when a person is drawn to get a door prize, they have to draw a name out of a 2nd canister and present their prize to the person whose name they draw. Might create a bit more interest and mystery. But, it would take longer... and maybe taking longer would be ok. If folks don't want to sing Christmas Carols, we need something a little more than routine door prizes to occupy the time. Something that involves the group.
The door prizes have been sped up, people do enjoy singing even if they groan a little (some more than others); encourage more homemade crafts by members for the door prizes.
Too much stuff going on in December. It's hard to fit the party in. Rex's Innkeeper is too expensive for the quality of food that we get.
Yesterday was my first one. It was fine.
Start 1/2 hour earlier for more visiting time
No singing
Play Christmas music gently in the background
More time for raffles, not so rushed

Part 3 - Speakers

20. Are you interested in having guest speakers other than the Secretary of DNR? *

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- Yes
- No

Guest speakers?	Total
Yes	68
No	25
N/A	7
(blank)	
Grand Total	100

21. If Yes, How long do you think a presentation should be?

Please choose **only one** of the following:

- 5-10 minutes
- 10- 20 minutes
- 20-30 minutes
- 30-45 minutes

How long?	Total
5-10 minutes	8
10- 20 minutes	47
20-30 minutes	18
30-45 minutes	2
(blank)	24
Grand Total	99

22. If Yes, Do you have topics to suggest?

COMMENTS:
1. Pending bills or legislation affecting resources. Tim Andryk could do this. 2. New technologies - ex. biofuel. I can think of a number of people who could tackle this. 3. Public lands and issues relating, ie. the Marijuana-Grow operations on public lands. Or the hunting access issue. 4. Restorations of lands & waters, - various projects occurring that might be of interest include some of the trout stream work, wetland restoration or prairie restoration. 5. Local indications of climate change... such as phenological change and ice-out times, etc. There are so many things that would be of interest and so many folks out there doing really interesting things. It shouldn't be hard to find speakers... many from our own DNR-ranks. Perhaps we need a Program's Officer, or maybe it could be the task of the Vice-President elect. Presentations should be about 30 min (or less) with a 10-15 minute question or discussion period to follow.
Agency history. New programs in the DNR Bureau Director reports Legislative reports Great vacations (with Power Point)
-Alzheimer's education and dealing with -perhaps how to be better health "insured" while in Medicare. - how to get your bang for your buck with Rx and suggestions of where -Is long term insurance a good thing? do you get your money back? what are the pros and cons
Any of the non-profit environmental groups
current events in resource mgt
DNR Projects, SWIB, ETF,
economy, current working environment, global warming
environmental issues land conservation issues monetary issues for retirees
General Resource Mgmt/Environmental. Effects of new administration on DNR. ETF issues

Health Insurance Long Term Care Insurance
Health insurance issues, Income tax advice, experiences with volunteer opportunities. A travel experience with photos
Health Insurance Options
Health insurance, investments, money management
I think we should have the Natural Resources Foundation give a short presentation each year as a reminder that it's a strong supporter of DNR and conservation programs. Investment Board. What's new in state government, not just DNR.
I would be interested in DNR-related topics such as CWD update, status of shore land preservation regulation, progress on nonpoint pollution, status of Great Lakes cleanup and pollution prevention. Perhaps later in 2011, someone could give us an update on any proposals for DNR budget cuts or organizational changes. Or, it could be an opportunity for someone to tell us about a recent trip, in more detail than is done now. The financial reports are often interesting and could possibly be expanded occasionally.
Includes questions time. Secretary or staff person from ETF. Topics could be health insurance changes with new federal law.
Info re DNR topics, ex. What's going on re Climate Change, re Invasive Species, etc. What's happening in Wisconsin in the area of sustainable Forestry.
Interesting things members have done
investing, taxes, pension,
Issues important to retired folks like health care options, "hot" environmental issues (ask folks like George Meyer or someone from Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters) and maybe some good "travel" presentations with visual content. Maybe some members could do this kind of thing at 2 or 3 monthly meetings scattered throughout the year.
Managed forest developments; wildlife management issues; biomass and other energy issues and developments.
Natural resource issues, e.g. status and results of Stewardship.
Nothing Special
Ongoing DNR issues from present day employees.
plantings and trees for attracting wildlife and birds to your property, visiting Europe and what websites help you to maneuver on your own without a tour company, someone from the Medicaid office to answer questions about Medical Assistance.
politics, conservation, land preservation, LE issues, etc
Pros & cons of different kinds of alternative energy, opportunities for volunteer service, health/insurance/medical issues
Recession Recovery; Wind Energy; Possible political action on popular programs. like stewardship which might be a target in budget process
Social Security person ETF representative National Parks/Trails person - Tom Gilbert County Executive Transit Authority board member (light rail, buses, bike routes, etc.) Local politicians who are currently in the news Community Car Vice President (Sonja Newenhouse) Local Fishing Guide (Craig Amacher from Fontana Sports) UW Arboretum director (Dr. Kevin McSweeney) Local attorney on preparing wills, declarations, living wills, trusts, etc. (Juscha Robinson) Wisconsin Pro-Gun Movement (Jim Fendry)
Social Security, Health Care, Investments, Travel
Some one from the retirement system to talk more in depth about our annuity and the investments. The political scene and how it may affect the DNR.
Something in a subject area such as endangered resources, waste management, etc.
Speaker from SWIB and ETF.
Speakers on senior lifestyle such as food, health issues (what's new to help seniors live comfortably, healthfully.)
SWIB, Deferred Comp
Travel Trips Conservation Issues
Trips taken by members

Various DNR related topics
We should have a variety of topics related to Natural Resources, Finances and retirement. Maybe some professional financial planners ? We could pay them to speak.
What are the politicians proposing to do to/with the WRS?
Travel and hobbies
Volunteer opportunities

23. Should any of our guests speak during the meal or after?

Speak when?	Total
Before	1
During	11
After	48
Either	7
(blank)	31
Grand Total	98

COMMENTS:
After the meal and forego some of the usual reports, trips, etc. During the meal would be very distracting and most people wouldn't pay attention.
After, otherwise it's too distracting for everyone.
After. Then maybe the people will shut up so people can hear the speaker!!!
Before the meeting. Take some time out of the bar time for the presentation.
depends - if it's someone showing slides of their trip that could happen during.
During is fine as long as we have time after we finish eating to ask questions.
Either before or during. After the people may disappear
Hmmm... not sure. I don't know how long folks want the meeting to be. They always seem anxious for adjournment, which I never understand. If they are willing to not adjourn til 2:00 or so, it could be after the meal.
makes no difference to me.
Okay to have them begin while people are finishing the meal.
Speakers' choice.
start 3/4 of the way through the meal into the end...
Starting while eating is underway acceptable...saves time.

Part 4 - Improvement

About Improvement

24. In your option, What could ARC do to improve as an organization?

COMMENTS:
Maybe have a social trip like American Players or play/luncheon at The Fireside?? Once a year!
Actually, I think it is doing fine now. It is not meant to be a whole lot more than a great opportunity to meet socially with the retirees and get updates on news affecting the retirees.
ARC is a unique and valuable organization. I would just ensure that all retirees know about us, and are invited to attend. Maybe we could try to get a more statewide attendance at our summer picnic ?
Are we state wide or regionally ? are there others that could benefit?
Consider starting an endowment through NRF to help conservation efforts.
develop a news letter
Doing fine
Doing a good job now
During our meeting members should have more respect for the person speaking. Continuous loud talking is very distracting and rude.
eliminate racist and sexist jokes
Fine as is.
Fine the way it is
get involved with league of conservation voters
I could deal with guest speakers who would seek to enlighten the members on the department rationale for handling hot button technical and political issues facing the Department management and Staff.
I do not know of any.
I have enjoyed attending meetings and it seems like many of the regulars like them like that are now conducted. I would like a little more substantive content.
I like it the way it is
I think it's exactly what it was set up to be... a coffee-clutch. But, I do see that the mission statement provided for supporting or opposing conservation policy or legislation. When i first came to the meetings, I was disappointed that the group didn't discuss current issues, but I've come to see that the interests of members are too diverse to tackle specific issues. Example, there a handful of wildlife folks that could discuss deer management issues, but this would not be a universal issue for the whole crowd. Thus, I think we have to stumble on the way we are... as a social bunch. The only other thing to do would be to set up committees relating to the various specialties to address specific issues.
I think it's fine as it is. It needs to stay relatively loose, informal, and voluntary, and to not be much work for anyone. I would like to see the treasury grow, and be used for minor beneficial purposes for the group (e.g., sympathy cards) and for natural resources issues. That's why I support continuing the raffle (it wouldn't have to be every month, but whenever there's something to raffle off). I would also support something like a \$1 or less surcharge on the meal to support the treasury.
I think we might consider several aspects of volunteerism: use the website/newsletter to let ARC members know about volunteer opportunities; volunteer as a group for something like Adopt-a-Highway, or invasive species removal in a state park, or something like that; explore opportunities to pass on our knowledge of the natural world to kids.
I think we're on the right track.
I wonder if the "business" part of the meetings could be shortened unless there's a specific topic of interest, e.g. the "Frank Report".
I'm really don't attend enough meetings to comment. I enjoy the summer picnic and the holiday party.
It is doing OK now. I think most of us would be willing to pay more for better meals. I like the general

format except when we ask if anyone has a trip they would like to tell about. Any thing that extends the meeting needs to be evaluated.
It serves the purpose of allowing old friends to connect. It needs no other purpose,
It still feels like a very much male dominated atmosphere, which is sometimes uncomfortable for a woman - especially the jokes. Not sure what can be done except to actively recruit more women - especially retired women professionals.
It's doing a good job already.
it's fine the way it is.
Its good as far as I'm concerned. I don't need any more BIG organizational stuff to attend to.
It's pretty good now!
Keep doing what you are doing
Keep up the good work.
n/a
No opinion
None
not enough experience to answer properly
not meet on Wednesdays
Not sure. Possibly fewer meetings with more substance (speakers, programs).
Nothing
Nothing
Nothing I can think of at this time.
Open ARC bank account instead of running money through individual's accounts. Maybe sponsor use of ACR members as speakers for younger DNR employee training and events.
Recruit younger retirees
Spend some of the money in the treasury on a portable PA system. Hearing some of the reports is difficult for many of the older members.
Take more active role with supporting some of the environmental action groups like the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation or the Conservation Voters group.
Think about recruiting members for outreach (Fishing has no boundary, Free fishing day, etc)
We are real good right now
Webpage and newsletter have been great additions, Keep them up!
We've evolved into a DNR retiree organization. We used to have some retirees from other Conservation Organizations who were active-a few are still members-but inactive. It's probably time to recognize this and restrict new members to retirees who at some time in their careers were employed by the DNR AND receive Retirement Benefits from The Wisconsin Retirement System(WRS).This would enable us to clearly identify objectives and goals and lead us to meaningful ways to improve the organization. identify
Works for me
Political issues, taking action on legislation
No off color jokes

25. Is there anything we missed in the questionnaire that you would like to add:

COMMENTS:
I think it would be important to choose some other restaurants for the ARC meetings, but recognize not all restaurants could handle our particular size on the days we require. Parking would also be an issue. It might make sense to have a group of people look into it. I would be able to work such a project. Thank you for asking our opinions.
An annual award would be appropriate.
Don't forget to have a few jokes....
hi Jim - Lyman writing. i erroneously hit a button that seemed to remove me from the survey! But I filled it in anyhow.
I don't think the meal price is preventing attendance, and maybe a modest increase would improve some of the meals.
I think the "volunteers" for officers is good. One caution is to have a person from a different program lured in to serve. We tend to stick with the group we work with and it would be tempting to stay several years with people from the same program. It seems we have done pretty well passing the job around.
I think the organization has done well, particularly since we opened it to women. I've enjoyed the monthly get togethers and try to attend as many as possible. It's a good social event, but with some learning about state retirement system, etc. We shouldn't try to get too serious.
It's very nice that state law now prohibits SMOKING in restaurants!
Keep emphasizing electronic communication and use of the web site.
Lack of healthy food choices at some restaurants, in particular too much saturated fat. We are an older group and healthy alternatives are extremely important to some of us. I avoid some meetings because of the restaurant choices. Thanks for asking and offering this survey.
nice job on the newsletter and website
No
No. But I think Jim will do a great job. After all, he has been a constant part of the leadership over all of these years whether in office or not. Good Luck Jim.
Nope
Nope
Not at this time.
Nothing
Only that I appreciate all the effort that those behind the scenes and the officers of the organization do on our behalf. It is important to stay in touch.
Our monthly luncheons are more like dinners -- they are heavy meals. I would like a lunch with more salad and a generally lighter meal.
Probably but I don't know what it might be. Thanks for asking our opinion

Since I've been a member, about a year and a half, I can say that the officers have been great and the opportunity to see friends and colleagues once a month is wonderful. Thanks for devoting your time and energy to ARC. I appreciate it.
The inclusion of guest speakers that are there simply to promote a funding request is offensive. These speakers are my primary reason for tempering my enthusiasm to attend these lunches
The joke telling doesn't really serve a purpose anymore.
Think you guys did a thorough job on the questionnaire. If I think of anything else, I'll let you know...
You did get at food quality/type indirectly. Personally, I'm less excited about coming to meetings with "rubber chicken" on the menu.
I don't eat beef but am not a vegetarian. More choices for lunch.
Frank/Miller report very important
Ed Frank report is always interesting

Thanks again for being a member of ARC and participating in the survey.

Please mail by **12/11/2010** to:

Jim Miller
499 Hyland Drive
Stoughton, WI 53589

Thank you for completing this survey.