

THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED CONSERVATIONISTS

Meeting of June 5, 2013 held at Pedro's Restaurante East, Madison

ARC President John Hagman called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

47 people were in attendance. There were 7 meal choices varying in price from \$9-11. Most popular choices were the beef burrito and the steak/chicken fajita skillet.

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

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

Financial Report:

The opening balance for Savings is \$222.89 and Checking is \$730.12.

Dividend on Savings account for June was \$.02.

Activity on Checking account:

DEPOSITS: Cost of the meals, tax and gratuities at Pedros was \$418.32. An additional \$64.68 was collected and deposited. Other deposits: Dues from two new members - \$4.00; reservations for the August picnic - \$300.00.

EXPENDITURES: 60 Forever stamps (@ \$.46) 6/6/13 to mail picnic announcements - \$27.60; copies of the picnic announcement and envelopes at Office Depot 6/10/13 - \$6.85; 50 ARC member directories at Office Depot 6/26/13 - \$43.52

Closing balance for Savings is \$222.91 and Checking is \$1,020.83.

New Members:

Laurel Steffes and Doug Fendry attended their second meeting and were voted in as new members.

"Frank-n-Miller Report":

Ed Frank reported that May was a good month, Dow up. He attended the ETF annual meeting on May 13. Prediction is that there will be a positive adjustment at the end of the year. SWIB continues to look for ways to control the cost of management. Retired economist spoke, said that health care costs are hard to predict but will increase.

WRS health insurance coverage/plans – be aware that if a person drops this at any time, they can only get back in at the annual enrollment period in October, so make sure to check current rules if you are thinking of getting out.

Bob Schaefer encouraged everyone to sign up to get the ETF electronic newsletter.

Old Business:

Picnic reservations may be made electronically on the ARC website, and Rick Wojciak has it set up so that you can pay with a credit card. No extra fee is assessed for using a credit card. Rick will send out the link to everyone.

Linda Meyer is moving to Savannah, Georgia and John thanked her for the many years that she has taken the lead on coordination of meeting locations and menus. Linda Netzer will take over and she is looking for someone to help with selecting meeting venues and setting up the meals. Please contact Linda if you want to volunteer or have questions about what is involved, time commitment, etc.

New Business

Chuck Pils brought copies of the new publication Wisconsin, naturally (a guide to State Natural Areas.) They are available for \$15.00.

Tom Thoresen reports that there is a provision in the budget bill that would prohibit challenges to high capacity wells. He moved that ARC sign on as opposed to this provision. Vande Brink seconded motion. Bylaws allow ARC to comment/support bills. Voice vote in favor. Hagman said he will draft a letter and that we should share the info with other retiree chapters.

Tom reminded everyone about the Electioncycle fundraiser that the League of Conservation Voters is holding June 23. It will start and end at Capitol Brewery in Middleton. You're welcome to attend the festivities even if you don't bike!

Deaths and Illnesses

Elaine Neustadter broke her hip in early May and underwent surgery. Her home address is 1678 Twin Lakes Circle, Green Bay, WI 54311.

Bill Johnson, ARC member and engineer for DNR, passed away on May 19. Other former DNR employees who passed away recently - Ernest "Ernie" Gorich, Fire Control Assistant at Crandon, Len Thorp, Northern Region fisheries program, Don Knoke, conservation warden.

Birthdays and anniversaries

Happy birthday on June 1 to Lloyd Lueschow. Wedding anniversaries - Ray and Ruth Ann Hendrikse celebrate their 59th anniversary June 1, Jim and Jan Miller celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary June 20, Lloyd and Shirley Lueschow celebrated 50 years June 2, Sheree and Tom Vande Brink celebrated their 34th anniversary May 19.

Trips

Chuck Pils spent 2 weeks in Italy this spring, visiting Rome and Florence. He traveled to Yellowstone National Park in March and said what a great trip that was. Jerry and Sandra Rodenberg made a trip to Darwin on the north coast of Australia to visit their daughter, son-in-law and new grandson. They drove the Stuart Hwy and saw Uluru (Ayers Rock.)

Other items of interest:

Ron Semann saw Herb Benke and he passed along regards.
There are 18 white pelicans on Patrick Marsh.

Jokes

Jim Miller, John Hagman shared jokes.

Meeting adjourned at 1:43 pm.