

THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED CONSERVATIONISTS

Meeting of October 1, 2014 held at New Glarus Hotel, New Glarus.

ARC President Sheree Vande Brink called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

49 people were in attendance. The cost was \$15.00 for rolls, salad, weinerschnitzel, rosti, spatzlie, Swiss green beans, coffee, tea, milk, and ice cream with chocolate topping.

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

The September minutes were read and approved.

Financial Report:

Paid \$686.00 to New Glarus Hotel for meals, tax and gratuity (out of cash collected at the door.)

Opening balance on October 1 for Savings is \$223.21 and Checking is \$741.67.
Dividend on Savings account October was \$.02.

Activity on Checking account:

DEPOSITS: \$49.00 proceeds from lunch.

EXPENDITURES: \$75 to NRF in memory of Joanne B. Christensen; \$34.15 to Office Depot for copies, stamps for the Holiday Party mailing.

Closing balance on November 1 for Savings is \$223.23 and Checking is \$681.52.

"Frank-n-Miller Report:"

Ed Frank said that SWIB says there are good signs for an increase on December 31. He reminded everyone that it's "decision time" for your health care plan, any changes must be made by October 31. Medicare Health Plan enrollment goes October 15 – December 31. Jim Miller gave a briefing, talked about changes with Dean Care and Navitus. Dean Care Gold no longer covers dental. There's a new plan with a higher deductible for those under 65, read carefully. Things to think about – if you leave the state health plan you can only get back in during the October Choice period. If you are the annuitant and die while you are out, your spouse/partner cannot elect to get back in.

Jim cautioned that there is no one plan that is best, everyone has unique health care needs. The State of Wisconsin Board on Aging and Long Term Care offers good advice. They will first send you a questionnaire, then analyze all of the federally available Medicare plans, and recommend the best plan for you. Contact the [Wisconsin Board on Aging at 855-677-2783](http://www.wisconsin.gov/aging) or longtermcare.wi.gov. Some senior citizen centers and AARP chapter provide the same service.

Old Business:

Lunch feedback is on the ARC website, thanks to everyone who has responded.

Think about a presentation you might like to give at a one of the upcoming meetings.

New Business:

Holiday party sign up will be online in mid-October for electronic registration. A flyer will be sent USPS to those members without e-mail access.

Sheree said we had trouble lining up a projector for today's presentation. Asked if any members would be willing to donate to buy one for ARC. By a show of hands, two thirds of those present indicated they would donate.

Deaths and Illnesses:

ARC member Joanne Christensen passed away on September 30. She worked for the DNR for 29 years as an administrative secretary at the Madison area office and South Central Region.

Ruth Anderson talked to Rose Scanlan. She is undergoing chemo for pancreatic cancer. She was diagnosed in July, but feeling better.

Cliff Witta is in a nursing home in Park Falls after having a heart attack. He would appreciate calls and visits as he recovers. 715-762-2449.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Jim Miller – 78, Ollie Williams – 87, Clark Amundson – 74, Laurel Steffes – 65

Ingeborg Sidwell, a "washerwoman" in the state capitol building who is credited with influencing the governor who created the state employee pension system, was born 150 years ago.

Trips:

Jerry Dorsheid was in Bend Oregon, John and Brenda Hagman are traveling to Cuba later in October, Dave Gjestson will be in Wisconsin this month.

Jokes:

Kermit Traska shared a joke

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Program: John and Brenda Hagman talked about their trip to Peru and Ecuador. They visited the terraced mountain village of Machu Picchu, had lots of interesting photos of the building stonework, and spent time in the Galapagos Islands getting close to a variety of birds, and reptiles.