

THE ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED CONSERVATIONISTS

Meeting of May 4, 2016 held at New Glarus Hotel, New Glarus.

ARC President Bruce Chevis called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

49 people were in attendance. The menu was a plated meal of weinerschnitzel and green beans, rosti and spatzlie served family style, along with house salad, rolls, beverages and ice cream. The cost was \$17 which included tax, gratuity and a contribution to ARC's treasury.

A moment of silence was observed for friends and family who have passed and for our troops.

The April minutes were read and approved.

Financial Report

Paid \$710.50 to New Glarus Hotel for meals, tax and gratuity (out of cash collected at the door.)

Opening balance on May 1 for Savings is \$223.59 and Checking is \$606.50.
Dividend on Savings account May was \$.02.

Activity on Checking account:

DEPOSITS: \$131.50 (122.50 proceeds from lunch, \$9.00 in the donation jar.)

EXPENDITURES: \$200 to "rsw productions" Rick Wojciak for 2016 webmaster services (final payment on \$600 invoice.)

Closing balance on June 1 for Savings is \$223.61 and Checking is \$538.00.

Guests and New Members

Greg Matthews – introduced by Laurel Steffes. Greg worked for DNR for 31 years as a permanent employee plus 3 years as an LTE. He retired as Public Affairs Manager for the South Central Region, and noted that while in SCR, he worked for 5 different Regional Directors. He ran point on media relations responding to floods, fires and other natural disasters, and produced press releases for every division. Greg cited work on the Glacial Heritage Area and Mazo Beach as some of the more interesting subjects!

"Frank-n-Miller Report:"

Ed Frank reported that the Dow is up and NASDAQ down as of the end of April. Preliminary returns to date are Core 2.2% and Variable 0.8%. He reminded everyone about the Coalition of Annuitants annual conference May 13. Speaking this year are the Secretary of ETF, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Investment Board (SWIB), and economist with CUNA Mutual Insurance Group and a deputy secretary for DATCP. Register by May 6.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Discussion about a budget item proposing to move Forestry HQ out of Madison. Lots of reorganization.

Forestry retirees are having a reunion on Saturday, July 16 in Merrill at the former Merrill Ranger Station which has been turned into the Sawmill Brewing Company. Attendance is limited due to capacity of the building, so any Forestry folks wishing to attend should contact wistreamigos@gmail.com no later than June 16.

The Youth Outdoor Expo will be held at MacKenzie Center in Poynette May 18 and 19.

Deaths and Illnesses:

Nothing reported.

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

Dan Fields and Mary Farmiloe celebrated birthdays this month.

Trips:

Mary Farmiloe was in the Cayman Islands scuba diving. She noted that this is an important area for black grouper spawning. Mary said that changes to species diversity were apparent in comparison to a trip she made 10 years ago. Didn't see as many kinds of fish as before.

Jokes:

Tom Thoresen shared Dave Gjestson's joke about the generosity of attorneys. It's almost like he was here...

Tribute to Ingeborg Sidwell: Given that this is the month when we celebrate the state pension system (legislation passed May 19, 1943) Dean Tvedt told the story of Ingeborg Sidwell who happens to be a relative of his. Ingeborg was a "washer woman" at the state capitol and, at age 79, was afforded no pension so she was still working. She personally sought out then Governor Goodland to advocate for the pending legislation. When she retired, her monthly check was \$14.70. <http://etf.wi.gov/news/ht-70years.htm>

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm.