

# President's Corner



Meetings held YEAR AROUND  
4th Thursday of the month.  
Newsletter published year around  
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## JANUARY 2013

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Happy New Year! As many of our locals know, snow has been sparse so far this year. We have had only one snowfall of about 6 inches providing little joy to the snowmobilers and skiers and the businesses they support. The lakes are still iffy for heavy traffic as evidenced by the number of vehicles still going thru the ice in early January. It seems the ice anglers, winter hikers and snowshoe enthusiasts are the only ones that can take advantage of the present conditions.

First I want to report on the great annual Christmas Party we held at the Clearview Supper Club on December 6, 2012. We had a record 74 people in attendance. We had a great time! We were treated to Holiday music by Bret and Frisk, had a huge array of great appetizers and enjoyed a wonderful meal as well. Darrell's staff at Clearview did a great job again this year. This year we received some merchandise and gift certificates from area businesses to use as door prizes. These gifts along with those purchased by our club and those brought by members provided over 70 gifts to pass out as door prizes so everyone went home with something (except Lee Olson – I owe you a drink). Additionally, Lori Pergolski was the grand prizewinner of our annual volunteer appreciation raffle gift that was a beautiful framed and signed print donated by Don Baumann. We also drew volunteer names for some nice prizes including \$20 Gift certificates from the St. Germain Chamber, manicures, books, and etc. Winners of the volunteer drawing were Marlene Rakowski, Pat Their, Dick Banks, Ken Horve, Phyllis Likens, and Marie Bauman. The volunteer raffle is a small way to thank all of the members who sign those clipboards and volunteer to help out on our many projects and activities all year long. Thanks also to all the members who



Judy Schell, Gary Walbruck and Frank Klamik presenting a \$500 check and 5 boxes of food to Jerry Wycoff of the Vilas County Food Pantry. (notice the bare shelves)

brought non-perishable food items to the party for the Vilas County Food Pantry. Due to your generosity, we provided over five large boxes of food for many less fortunate people this holiday season. All in all the evening was one of festive Christmas caroling, good conversation and much merriment.

Next, to update you on some club news items -- we have received thank you

## NEXT MEETING

Thurs., January 24<sup>th</sup>  
2:00 pm  
St. Germain Community Center

## PROGRAM

Your program directors have put together an exciting list of programs for 2013. Up first is Bryan Pierce, Executive Director of the Northwoods Land Trust. The topic for the meeting will be "Protecting Your Property." Protecting the environment is a concern for us all. We had over 70 members at the Christmas party and almost that many at the Picnic; support your club by attending the meetings. We put a lot of effort into choosing interesting and entertaining programs. Remember, January meeting starts a 2 pm. See you ALL there.

Jane & Marlene

## RAFFLE TICKET SALES

Chris Main

## BOARD MEETING

Thurs., January 24<sup>th</sup>  
1:00 pm  
St. Germain Community Center

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letters from the Vilas County Food Pantry for our Donation of food from our members as well as the Club's donation of \$500 last month. Also, we received a thank you cards from Warm the Children for our \$500 donation to provide warm clothing to less fortunate children and from the Northwoods Wildlife Center for our donation of \$250.

We received a check for \$204.60 from Camps SuperValu Foods Community Dollars program. This is a result of members shopping at Camps and putting CD 14 on their receipts for the red basket - Thank you Dave, Mary and Bruce Weber. We also received a check for \$36.46 from Trigs in Eagle River for their community dollars. The number to use for Trigs is 69S on your grocery receipt. The Club greatly appreciates being part of these programs.

Our next meeting will be on January 24th at 2 p.m. and will feature Bryan Pierce of the Northwoods Land Trust speaking on "Protecting Your Property". Note this is the first meeting on our winter schedule of meeting in the afternoon. At our last general meeting our membership voted to not have refreshments at the winter afternoon meetings- just coffee, soda and water ----so no cookies for me.

Bob Schell, President



Special thanks to  
Dale & Judith Faesi  
for their donation.

Jan. 12 – PRIMETIMERS  
SNOWFLAKE DANCE  
7 pm–11 pm—at the St Ger-  
main Community Ctr. Live  
music, food and beverages.  
Public is welcome.

WELCOME NEW  
MEMBERS!

Rose Futrell  
Sayner

Mary Lou Davis  
St Germain



Above: Mac McCormick presenting a donation check to Courtney Wright of the Northwoods Wildlife Center

# Birds, Animals & Other Wild Things



For the past few years we have been getting Red-bellied Woodpeckers (*Melanerpes carolinus*) at our feeders during the winter and occasionally in our woods during the spring and summer. These woodpeckers are about the same size as the familiar Hairy Woodpecker. Males have striking red feathering on the top of their head, running from the bill to the nape of the neck. The female has a smaller red marking above the bill and on the back of their neck. Both sexes have bold black and white barring on their back and wings, with light grey underside and face. They get their name from the less conspicuous reddish patch on the lower belly.

Red-bellied Woodpeckers are omnivores. They feed on grubs and insects in dead wood and bark crevices, as well as catching them on the wing. They also supplement their diet with a variety of berries, nuts and seeds. At our feeder they seem attracted to the black oil sunflower seeds primarily. The tongue of the Red-bellied Woodpecker can extend almost two inches past the tip of its beak. It also has a slight barb at the end of its sticky tongue which aids in retrieving the grubs.

Both sexes will call mates and to establish territory. Males also drum to attract mates. Nesting holes usually

are established in decayed standing trees or snags.

While we only have noticed a handful of these birds in our area, they are considered a species of "least concern" from a conservation standpoint because they are very common in their traditional habitat, which includes most of the Eastern United States from southern Wisconsin east to Connecticut and south to Florida. In the past 50 years, the Red-bellied Woodpeckers have been expanding their range northward. In the 1950's, southern Wisconsin was considered the northern edge of their year-round habitat. Since then, they have continued pushing further north. Recent studies have shown that a number of bird species are showing a similar pattern. While changes in climate are thought to contribute heavily, no one knows for certain what is causing this push northward.

Anne Small



## Sunshine Report

Our condolences go out to Arlene Rieckenberg whose son-in-law passed away recently.

Continued well-wishes to both Rich and Linda Polaski, Ellen Finch and Steve Pulec as they deal with on-going medical problems.

*Please contact Linda Polaski if you know of a member who needs a card of sympathy, cheer or encouragement – 715-479-4718.*



Left: Frank Klamik, Judy Schell, Bob Schell and Gary Walbruck presenting a \$500 check to Sharina Adams of Warm the Children. Right: Ellen Dahnke Spreading Joy (50-50\$) at the Christmas Party.



## FRANK'S FISHING REPORT

Ice is now covering most of our lakes. The lakes in the southern half of the state people are walking on. In the north some brave soles are driving on. Panfish action is spotty as people await the fish to come to their normal winter patterns.

Game fish are being caught in their normal winter locations. Many walleye are caught as they move into the weed edges the last hour of daylight and later. I have had action with a jigging Rapala. The other people in the area are using small suckers and lake shiners on tip-ups.

As the water gets colder over the next month panfish action will improve. Remember speed, size and color, in that order, will increase your catches. Also watch other fishermen to aid in your location.

*~ Frank Klamik*



### CLUB PLEDGE

- ✓ I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the state of Wisconsin—especially of the Sayner-St. Germain area.
- ✓ I promise to obey all rules and regulations governing the harvest of wildlife and plant material.
- ✓ I promise to educate future generations so that they may become the caretakers of our water, air, land and wildlife.