

Squires Minutes 9/12/2024

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRY SQUIRES

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12TH 2024

In the absence of Art Scutro, Steve Seamans opened the Meeting

Paul Buffum delivered the Words of Inspiration

Linc Jepson introduced his guest, Al Lambert

Jeff White introduced his guest, Skip Rogers

There were no new members voted in.

There was a brief discussion of non-dues paying members and how to approach them for payment.
To date 73% of the members are current with their dues.

A Volunteer for delivering the Words of Inspiration for October is still needed.

After lunch Dave Woods introduced our featured speaker, Mary Kronenwitter who spoke on the subject of the Corbin Game Preserve.

The Corbin Game Preserve is the largest private game preserve in the U.S. comprising 26,000 acres in Plainfield, Cornish, Croydon and Grafton.

It was founded by banking and railroad tycoon Austin Corbin in 1889 as a private hunting preserve and wildlife preservation project. The preserve was stocked with buffalo, elk, deer and wild boar for the hunting pleasure of Corbin and his guests. Corbin was a contemporary of J P Morgan and Conelius Vanderbilt who had built his immense fortune on banking in Iowa and New York as well as railroads including the Long Island Railroad. Corbin was also responsible for developing luxury hotels in the Coney Island area. Originally from Newport, NH, Corbin returned, built a mansion and developed the game park. After his death in 1896 Corbin's son took over management of the preserve until his death in 1938. In 1944 ownership of the park was taken over by a group of wealthy hunters. While the buffalo no longer roam the park, the preserve was important in saving the buffalo that had declined to around 500 head in the U.S. Thanks in part to Corbin and his preserve the buffalo population in the U.S. has revived into herds numbering in the hundreds of thousands. Today the owners maintain the park as a closely held club that limits members to 50. Occasionally, wild boar from Corbin still escape the park to ravage local corn fields.

Next month our speaker will be Clement Kigugu on the subject of Refugees

Submitted: Tom Flynn, Secretary