

Minutes  
Unit 354 Board Meeting  
April 22, 2008  
Peoria Bridge Studio

President Kim Corbin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. In attendance were George Drake, Kim Corbin, Janet Newman, Angie Ulrey, Page Tomkinson, Rod Bias, Jamie Rubenstein, Barb Bunnell, Leslie Davis, JoAnne Lowe, Charlie Kelley, Marianne Spanier, and Bob Welch. The minutes of the March meeting were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report

JoAnne reported for Leon, stating a net cash balance of \$12,269.22 and a \$12,000 CD. Leon has bought a PA system and JoAnne has ordered bidding box inserts and pick up slips. We need to ask Rick where extra cards are stored. Leon projects that if the next sectional has a table count of 360, we can break even financially. All taxes have been paid for the year to IRS, Corporate Securities of Arizona, and the Az. Dept. of Revenue.

Tournament Report

Leslie handed out assignments for the Silver Sun sectional. JoAnne will check with Rick about caddies. Page and Janet will help troubleshoot. JoAnne complimented the board on their organization for the sectional and regional tournaments. Barb will take pictures at the tournament. The hotel wants the number of sandwiches ordered on Friday, but we can't provide the count accurately until Sunday morning. It was suggested that Shirley and others sit next to the entry table and sell vouchers for the Swiss team game on Sunday.

George presented his plan for advertising for the Desert Empire Regional. The ACBL bulletin is too costly for just one month, and we are too late to get into the June issue. A half page ad will run in The Forum both June and July.

Novice/Education Report

Rod told us that Kiva West participants will help present an eight week bridge program in the Dysart Schools. He explained the groundwork for this program starting this summer and continuing into next school year. ACBL co-opts the program to help bring in new players by paying for 75% of all printing costs. Paul Pappas, a visitor to the meeting, stopped by to encourage the board and a youth program.

Rod suggests we could have a 99er or 199er tournament and Paul agreed to help. Such a tournament might be a better way to find new players than our novice clinics used in the past.

Trailer/Storage

Charlie has contacted a retail store to investigate availability and cost of a new 20' truck with a utility trailer, tandem, enclosed, with brakes, capable of holding 1700 pounds. The cost would be \$3000-4000. Janet suggested checking craigslist and JoAnne agreed to check eBay. A motion was made and unanimously carried to have Leon, Charlie, and Kim form a committee to purchase a new or used trailer immediately.

Kim explained that the ABA (American Bridge Assn.) would like to borrow 40 tables for their tournament. A motion was made and unanimously carried to assist this group in their request for June 5-9. We will send information about our tournament for display at their tournament.

Shuffle, Deal and Play

The board cheered Barb's efforts on SDP. The next deadline is 16. The latest issue was a superior one thanks to the hard work of Jamie Rubenstein, Barb Bunnell, Heather Johnson, and Page Tomkinson and other regular contributors. It was suggested that we need to push the web site in SDP and get more use of our electronic media.

#### Future Tournaments Sites

The contract is complete for ASU in Feb. 09. Kim needs a copy of the contract for a series of Regionals starting in 2011 at Casino Arizona in October instead of August. The Board is very concerned about the lack of procedure in securing a major contract with Casino Arizona. The contract was signed under Jerry's direction as a member of the district and unit boards without approval from those boards. No one has seen a copy of the contract.

#### Membership

Bob reported a membership of 1606, a slightly smaller membership (by 20 some people) than we had at the same time last year. He has regional flyers ready for distribution after the Silver Sun is over.

#### Charity

Page reported that the Scottsdale House Charity Game, organized by Jamie, will be featured in the ACBL Bulletin. George Doty is planning a charity game that will conflict with the Silver Sun sectional. Marianne will look into whether there are any rules regarding this situation.

#### Judicial

George has written a letter to one of our members requesting an apology be made to Unit 351 when that member ignored the lack of permission to sell books at the Mesa sectional and did so anyway.

#### District 17 news

Marianne reported that District 17 will have one of their meetings at our Regional and that a luncheon and cocktail party will be offered.

A motion was made for adjournment. The next meeting will be held Thursday, May 29 at Doty Bridge Club.