

Unit 354 Minutes
October 22, 2008
Scottsdale House

President Kim Corbin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.. In attendance were Rod Bias, Jerry Gaer, Joanne Lowe, Marianne Spanier, Lesley Davis, Charles Kelley, Page Tomkinson, Bob Welch, Angie Ulrey, Jamie Rubenstein, Janet Newman, Barb Bunnell, and Kim Corbin. Unable to attend was George Drake. Ava Lampert attended as an observer.

The **minutes** of the September 24 meeting were accepted and approved with a unanimous verbal vote.

Treasurer's Report - Joanne Lowe summarized the printed treasurer's report from Leon Lowe. The unit made a slight profit of \$465 on the recent sectional. A summary of Horn-O-Plenty finances was distributed. A motion was made to move the trailer to storage at Storage Max on McDowell, alleviating some of the problems that we have incurred and making the job somewhat easier for Charlie. The motion carried pending Charlie's checking out the location. Kim will handle PA storage. Charlie will look into use of PA at ASU West.

There was much discussion and clarification about future tournament sites. Space for the 2010 tournament is available at Grand Canyon University for the May tournament. We would need to rent chairs, but the total cost would remain well below what we have been paying for room rental. We have contracts for May and October 2009 at Doubletree. Feb. 2009, the President's Day Tourney, will be at ASU West. The December 2009 tournament is canceled because the Doubletree is not available and San Diego will be hosting a national tournament at the same time. Serious consideration is being given to a 2010 STAC on January 4-5-6. The Feb. 2010 tournament will be at ASU West; the May 2010, hopefully, at Grand Canyon University. Lesley moved that we go forward getting Grand Canyon for May. Bob Welch seconded; the motion carried. Some discussion ensued regarding the possibility of the Oct. 2010 tournament being at the Mesa Convention Center even as a co-host with Unit 351; however, the idea was negated and West World was also suggested as a possible site. The Horn of Plenty 2010 could be at Glendale Civic Center or West World.

Final Regional Schedule- was approved by the district at their October meeting with minor changes.

Holiday Sectional Plans Lesley reported that problems have been ironed out despite Doubletree's double booking. She also asked for volunteers to be sectional chairperson. Janet Newman, Charlie Kelley, and Joanne Lowe will share that task next year.

Page expressed dissatisfaction with the sandwiches at the Doubletree. Barb announced that Clark Ransom will donate one of his black and white drawings to a raffle. There was discussion about the use of earned monies. Angie suggested using the money expressly for youth bridge, promoting the idea of bridge players helping the game and youth in the game.

Joanne moved that we raise sectional fees to \$11 for 2009. The motion carried.

Table Loans - Kim requested board approval to loan tables to TIME. His motion carried. Barb reminded us that a contract for such usage is needed, similar to the one the ABA used. They will pay transport costs for moving the tables.

Grand National Co-Ordinator - Angie agreed to be the Grand National Teams co-ordinator and act as liaison between the national office and our local clubs.

Novice/Education - Rod has met with success at Dysart Elementary School with an after school program once a week spear headed by Jane Wooley and twelve other adults. Seven tables were in play for Mini Bridge. El Mirage will also have a bridge club starting on Nov. 7. Rod was reminded to submit a statement of his expenses for reimbursement. He also reported nine tables in the 1999 game at the tournament after making phone calls to about 200 novices. Hats off to all his hard work.

Shuffled, Deal, and Play - The next deadline is Dec. 12. Page will send an article about the President's Day Tournament directly to Jared Johnson and Ken Monzingo. Barb will forward the updated flyer to both by Nov. 1. Janet suggested we put the \$71 room rate at Days Inn on the web site for future tournaments.

Upcoming Board Elections - Angie reported that the ballots are ready for distribution and that Page will receive and count the ballots mailed to her home.

National Tournament 2013 - Kim reported that the 2013 national tournament will be in Phoenix.

Board 17 Representative Election - Lesley Davis was voted in as our new rep effective January 1. The board applauded Jerry's long standing service on the district board.

Membership Directories - Jamie questioned how many directories to print. A check sheet for members to correct current info will be available at clubs and the Dec. tournament. Jamie moved to make a small size directory of approximately 1000 copies at a cost of \$2000. The motion carried. He was also authorized to solicit ads and a committee will decide size and cost of ads.

Regional Replacement Plan - a STAC would be held JAN 4-5-6, 2010, in clubs throughout the unit in lieu of the 2009 December sectional. Jerry reminded us that the conditions of contest need board approval and we need to apply for sanction. The annual unit meeting will necessarily have to be at the Horn of Plenty instead of the Holiday Tourney.

Website - Barb is asking for help in locating a qualified web master to replace her.

Board Brunch - Page announced that the holiday brunch will be Dec. 14 at Janet Newman's home. Janet is providing the meal (and comes highly recommended!!)

Membership - Bob had sent board members a membership report electronically this past week. We counts a membership of 1625 with 75 new snow birds recently changing their address to Unit 354.

District 17 - The district board has a new member on it from Tucson. We need to make sure the name Phoenix appears on our tournament flyers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15. The next meeting will be January 7, 5:00, Scottsdale House.