

West Los Angeles Unit #562

Unit Board Minutes – February 6, 2006

Present: Peter Benjamin, Karen Byrd, Jordan Chodorow, Roger Clough, Howie Einberg, Sam Haveson, Toby Green, Nancy Heck, Fred Mautner, Tom Moore, Bill Schreiber

Absent: Cecil Cook, Chuck Fonarow (10 demerits), Barbara Nusbaum, Elianna Ruppin

Guest: Judy Levi

Meeting Called: 6:20 p.m.

MINUTES – The minutes of the January 10, 2006 meeting were submitted by Roger Clough and approved. The Secretary thanks Roger very much for taking the minutes.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Cash on hand as of February 6, 2006 was \$32,911.13.

SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT – LAX Plaza Hotel, May 5 - May 7 – We will get room rates (\$79/night). We have until April 10 to get them. Meals will be available. The hotel and ballroom have been improved. There is no extra space available after the first session on Sunday. Flyers have been prepared and will go into the April Southern California Bridge News, for which the Secretary will also write a brief article.

ANNUAL PARTY – The Board thanked Judy for all of her hard work on the party. Judy thanked Sam and Sandy Haveson, Nancy (computer), Cecil, Howie and Rodger Harbin (set-up), Betsy Lutz (sales), Annie Corea, and all others who helped.

Judy reported that she received some comments about the band (many preferred the old band), the nametags, the flowers (potted vs. cut), the introduction of new Life Masters (well-received), the prizes (well-received), and the tables (we should not arrange seating; if people want to sit in groups, they should arrange to do so beforehand). There was a ten-meal difference between the number of meals served and the number paid for. Fred reported that the Unit subsidized \$4,248 of the cost of the party, a lower figure than usual.

We then discussed locations for the party. Judy reported that the Olympic Collection people are very hard to work with. If we remain interested in holding the party there, we will need to book soon and it will likely be more expensive this year. Marilyn Gams has expressed some interest in organizing the party. Any decision about the party has been put off until the next Board meeting while Howie contacts Marilyn.

SUNSHINE – Toby has sent out cards to Jack Golden and Helen Palmer (both sick), and will send out a card to Louis Carmichael (infirm).

ALACBU MEETING – Barbara, Bill, Cecil, Peter and Roger will attend.

PRO-AM – Howie will ask Jeri Berger to organize this event.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting will be held at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7 at the Beverly Hills Bridge Club.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:07 p.m.

West Los Angeles Unit #562

Unit Board Minutes – April 10, 2006

Present: Peter Benjamin, Karen Byrd, Roger Clough, Cecil Cook, Howie Einberg, Chuck Fonarow, Toby Green, Sam Haveson, Fred Mautner, Tom Moore, Barbara Nusbaum, Elianna Ruppin

Absent: Jordan Chodorow, Nancy Heck, Bill Schreiber

Guests: Jeri Berger, Marcia Fisher

TREASURER'S REPORT – Cash on hand as of April 9, 2006 was \$32,936.43.

SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT – LAX Plaza Hotel, May 5 - May 7 – The sectional was discussed and arrangements were made for hospitality. Mini McKenney winners will get pins; Ace of Clubs winners will get certificates; both will get single session free plays for the second Saturday session.

ANNUAL PARTY – The Olympic Collection wants a \$1500 deposit. However, the Board has decided to explore other options.

PRO-AM game – The pro-am game will be held May 21st at 5:30 p.m. at Beverly Hills Bridge Club.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting will be held at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, May 9 at Beverly Hills Bridge Club.

The Secretary thanks Chuck Fonarow for his assistance with this month's minutes.

West Los Angeles Unit #562

Unit Board Minutes – May 9, 2006

Present: Peter Benjamin, Karen Byrd, Jordan Chodorow, Cecil Cook, Howie Einberg, Toby Green, Sam Haveson, Nancy Heck, Fred Mautner, Tom Moore, Barbara Nusbaum

Absent: Roger Clough, Chuck Fonarow (10 demerits), Elianna Ruppin, Bill Schreiber

Guests: Jeri Berger, Marcia Fisher

NAME GAME - Cecil made a motion to donate \$200 to the ALACBU Scholarship Fund to name the Saturday Open Pairs game at the Regional for the West Los Angeles Unit. The motion passed on a voice vote.

SUNSHINE - Toby has sent cards to Carol Robison (whose husband, Jim, passed away recently) and Marjorie Rhodes (hospitalized for three more weeks with leukemia).

SECTIONAL REPORT - Peter reported that attendance was way down, to 138 tables this year from approximately 200 last year. Karen noted that some attendees were upset about a lack of free parking. In the future, the directors will have a list of Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenney award winners on hand for verification purposes. Steve Mager won the most masterpoints, but Peter won the most among WLA players – congratulations! No events will change for the September sectional.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Cash on hand as of May 9, 2006 was \$33,631.51.

PRO-AM game - Jeri noted that BHBC runs a game Sunday afternoon before the Pro-Am game. We will need help cleaning up before the Pro-Am and will attempt to hire the couple who work at BHBC. Nancy will purchase eight bottles of wine to be awarded as prizes. Tom will bring cold drinks, Howie ice. Paper goods are available at BHBC. Jeri will purchase food platters at Costco; Barbara and Sandy Haveson will make desserts. Rodger Harbin has been hired as director. The game has been sanctioned as a Unit Championship.

ANNUAL PARTY – Both Mountaingate and Riviera are unsuitable (too small). Barbara will look into the Westchester Women's Club. Think about ideas for a party; there is presently no plan, no chairman, etc. Barbara questioned whether we want to throw a party given that the sectional was not highly profitable; Howie argued that the party should not depend on the sectional. The possibility of the Unit's investing in tables was discussed and (ahem) tabled.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting will be held at 6:15 p.m. on Tuesday, June 13 at Barrington Bridge Club.

West Los Angeles Unit #562

Unit Board Minutes – June 13, 2006

Present: Peter Benjamin, Karen Byrd, Jordan Chodorow, Cecil Cook (very late),
Howie Einberg, Chuck Fonarow, Toby Green, Sam Haveson, Nancy Heck,
Tom Moore, Barbara Nusbaum, Elianna Ruppin, Bill Schreiber

Absent: Roger Clough, Fred Mautner

Guests: Marcia Fisher

THE NAME GAME - Barbara suggested that, when the time comes, we consider naming a game at the February Regional in honor of the late Marjorie Rhodes and Fred Maier.

IT'S A SUNSHINE DAY - Toby will send a thank-you note to Jeri Berger for organizing our pro-am game and a note of consolation to Jill Meyers, whose sister Nina recently passed away.

PARTY ON? - Peter discussed the possibility of holding the annual party at the LAX Plaza Hotel, where our sectionals are held. For a cost of \$30/person, a sit-down service and a buffet would be available. The ballroom would be made available to us for free. We would have to guarantee 100 attendees. Many board members expressed a preference for a sit-down service. Peter will continue to communicate with the hotel and we will continue to consider this option.

IT'S N.A.P. TIME - Karen will work with Barrington and Beverly Hills to set dates for the first round of the North American Pairs.

SCHOOL DAYS - Elianna will coordinate our efforts to establish a school bridge program.

SEE YOU NEXT TIME - The next meeting was set for Monday, July 10 at 6:30 p.m. at Beverly Hills.

West Los Angeles Unit #562

Unit Board Minutes – July 10, 2006

Present: Peter Benjamin, Karen Byrd, Jordan Chodorow, Cecil Cook, Roger Clough, Howie Einberg, Chuck Fonarow, Toby Green, Nancy Heck, Fred Mautner, Tom Moore, Barbara Nusbaum, Elianna Ruppin, Bill Schreiber

Absent: Sam Haveson

Guest: Candy Scott

DISTRICT REPORT – Cecil reported that the 10:30 am (Seniors) and 1:00 pm (Open) start times were well received and attendance increased in both categories. A volunteer for the post of ALACBU Secretary is needed. The scholarship fund is not well-endowed right now, and only one student has been nominated for the coming year. The committee plans to solicit selected well-to-do members for contributions to the fund. No location is under contract for the February tournament, which will require 10,000 square feet. Santa Anita is under consideration, depending upon the terms, while the Hilton has given one month to decide on its facility. The Westin has been good and is under contract for 2007, but not for 2008.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Fred reported total cash as of 7/8/06 of \$31,143.79.

UNIT PARTY – Peter reported that the LAX Plaza Hotel (site of our sectionals) could accommodate us for \$30/person. We could start with a sit-down luncheon in the large room, adjourn to the smaller lower room for announcements while tables are cleared, then return to the large room for bridge. An ad hoc committee of Barbara, Cecil, Howard and Peter will meet at the hotel to determine whether it will work for the tentatively scheduled date of December 3. As an alternative, Candy mentioned the possibility of two large adjacent rooms where she teaches at Santa Monica College near the Santa Monica Airport.

SECTIONAL REPORT – Peter needs volunteers for all aspects of the Labor Day Sectional September 1-4: hospitality, partnership, set-up, etc. Candy will exhort readers of the column to attend, while the Secretary will write a brief article for inclusion in the Bridge News.

EVENT NAMING – Cecil made a motion to name two different events at the next regional for Fred Maier and Marjorie Rhodes, at a cost of \$200/ea. (allocated to the scholarship fund). Peter made a motion to spend an additional \$200 to name a third event at the next regional for Nina Meyers Swanson. Both motions carried on a voice vote.

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 14th at 6:15 pm at the Beverly Hills Bridge Club.

West Los Angeles Unit #562

Unit Board Minutes – August 14, 2006

Present: Peter Benjamin, Jordan Chodorow, Roger Clough, Howie Einberg, Chuck Fonarow, Toby Green, Sam Haveson, Nancy Heck, Fred Mautner, Tom Moore, Barbara Nusbaum, Elianna Ruppin

Absent: Karen Byrd, Cecil Cook, Bill Schreiber

Guest: Alan LeBendig

LET'S GET FISCAL – Fred reported total cash on hand as of 8/13/06 of \$31,093.68.

JUST D&O IT! - Alan reported that the ACBL has implemented a plan to insure the directors and officers of each unit and district (as well as the ACBL) for their official acts. The coverage will cost the ACBL approximately \$140,000 this year but will not cost the units or districts anything. If the unit were required to pay for coverage in a later year, it could opt out of the plan beforehand. The ACBL Board will continue to monitor pricing, alternatives, etc. The Unit Board voted to participate in the plan with Peter abstaining. Howard asked whether there has been a lawsuit against the Unit board or any of its members within the past five years. Nobody was aware of any such suit or of the possibility of any such suit. Howard instructed the Secretary to check the past minutes for any indicia of such a suit for purposes of making the representations required by the insurer.

KIDS IN AMERICA – Elianna reported that she, Howard, Peter, and Roger and Becky Clough met as the Unit's Youth Committee. They will be focusing on the Culver City Teen Center, with a view to two sessions per week. Volunteers are needed. The committee will speak with Sharon Augsburg and Bob Chen about their experiences with youth bridge and will also ask Betty Mednick to get involved.

TOPSY-TOURNEY – Peter solicited volunteers for hospitality, partnership, set-up and take-down at the Labor Day Sectional September 1-4.

PARTY ON! – The party is set for December 3 at the LAX Plaza Hotel. We will use the big room by the pool for the luncheon and another room for bridge. Sandy Einberg will chair. The Board decided to keep the price at \$35 but to provide stickers (worth \$4) allowing attendees to park for free in the hotel parking.

NATURAL ELECTION – Fred will chair the Election Committee with Barbara and Roger to assist. Those up for re-election in 2006 are Peter, Karen, Toby, Nancy, Tom, Elianna and Bill. The Board set a sign-up deadline of October 15th for new candidates. Ballots will be included with the party invitations. Barbara will ask Candy to solicit candidates in the column.

IF IT'S TUESDAY, IT MUST BE... – Next meeting: Tues. Sept. 12, 6:15 pm, Barrington

West Los Angeles Unit #562

Unit Board Minutes – September 12, 2006

Present: Peter Benjamin, Karen Byrd, Jordan Chodorow, Cecil Cook, Howie Einberg, Chuck Fonarow, Toby Green, Nancy Heck, Fred Mautner, Tom Moore, Barbara Nusbaum, Bill Schreiber

Absent: Roger Clough, Sam Haveson, Elianna Ruppin

Guests: Jerry Aronow, Sandy Einberg, Marcia Fisher

DOLLARS AND SENSE – Fred reported cash on hand as of 9/12/06: \$30,357.89

SECTIONAL HEALING - Peter reported that attendance dropped 84 tables year-to-year at the West LA Unit Sectional. The profit on this year's tournament will be \$1,000 minus the final cost of advertising; the tournament will make money, but not as much as in past years. Peter mentioned some problems he had with the hotel: the night manager did not adjust the temperature properly, and salads were not included with some meals as had been promised.

ELECTION DAY – There have been no sign-ups yet for Unit Board candidates. We will ask Candy to advertise again in her column.

POY-POLLOI – The Board can vote as late as the November meeting for Player of the Year, to be awarded at the Unit Party. The past winners form the nominating committee and will present the board with a short list of names at one of the next two meetings.

PARTY HEARTY – The Board thanked Sandy for assuming the chairmanship of the Unit Party. A motion passed to allow Sandy to spend up to \$500 on printing and advertising, though she hopes to spend less. A committee of volunteers will help Sandy: Karen, Marcia, Sam, Nancy and Barbara. They will make decisions without having to report back to the Board.

GOOD MORNING SUNSHINE – Toby reported that she sent a card to Manny Krupin, whose wife passed away.

SEE YOU LATER, ALLIGATOR – Next mtg: Tuesday, October 3, 6:15 p.m., BHBC

West Los Angeles Unit #562

Unit Board Minutes – October 3, 2006

Present: Peter Benjamin, Karen Byrd, Jordan Chodorow, Howie Einberg, Chuck Fonarow, Toby Green, Nancy Heck, Fred Mautner, Tom Moore, Barbara Nusbaum, Bill Schreiber

Absent: Cecil Cook, Roger Clough, Sam Haveson, Elianna Ruppin

SHOW ME THE MONEY – Fred reported cash on hand as of 10/3/06: \$32,542.71. Fred will bring the financial information to the next meeting and an *ad hoc* committee will review it.

GET ON BOARD - We are not aware of anybody signing up yet for the Board. We may not and probably will not have an election. We might have a Board with fewer than fifteen members. Barbara suggested that we not randomly solicit people for the Board but only ask those who we believe would be useful.

PARTY HEARTY – An advertising circular for the Unit Party was circulated. The contributions to bridge of E' Anne Conaway and Alan LeBendig will be recognized at the party. It was decided to give each of them a plaque. Fred will take care of the wording.

THE POY POLLOI – Barbara reported that the Player of the Year Committee met and came up with a preliminary list of three names. Other names were solicited. The Board will vote next month.

GOOD MORNING SUNSHINE – Toby reported that Ronnie Morris suffered a broken hip. Bill reported that his wife is recovering well from hip surgery.

SEE YOU LATER, ALLIGATOR – Next mtg: Monday, November 6, 6:15 p.m., BHBC

West Los Angeles Unit #562

Unit Board Minutes – November 6, 2006

Present: Peter Benjamin, Jordan Chodorow, Roger Clough, Cecil Cook, Howie Einberg, Chuck Fonarow, Toby Green, Sam Haveson, Nancy Heck, Fred Mautner, Tom Moore, Bill Schreiber

Absent: Karen Byrd, Barbara Nusbaum, Elianna Ruppin

Guests: Sandy Einberg, Marcia Fisher

SHOW ME THE MONEY – Fred reported cash on hand as of 11/6/06: \$32,897.59. Fred brought the Unit's financial materials to the meeting to be reviewed by any interested parties. It was decided to move \$5,000 from the Unit's checking account into a certificate of deposit.

GET ON BOARD - No election was needed. The Board presently has two vacancies. It was decided to approach two people who have expressed interest and to offer them positions on the Board; if either declines, a third person will be approached and offered a position. Howard will coordinate.

PARTY HEARTY – Sandy reported that invitations have been sent. Nancy has received approximately 39 responses to date. Our contract calls for a minimum guarantee of 125. Tables will seat eight to ten people. People will get the dishes they ordered and play with the partners they indicated. Howard will hire the directors. Sam has procured the ACBL sanction. Peter has arranged for tables. Sandy will shop at Costco in a couple of weeks. She and Peter will visit the hotel soon to make final arrangements. The committee will meet the week before the party. Fred will procure the plaques to recognize E'Anne Conaway and Alan LeBendig for their contributions to bridge.

THE POY POLLOI – Barbara, Cecil, Roger and Sam met and nominated Fred, Howard and Alan LeBendig for Player of the Year. The Board voted and chose a winner, who will be announced at the Unit Party.

GOOD MORNING SUNSHINE – Adrienne Green has scheduled hip surgery. Earle Ziskin was hospitalized but is back out. Toby will send cards.

SECTIONAL HEALING – Peter reported that we have lost our playing site, as the hotel has closed for renovations and will not return to operation until late 2007. Peter will coordinate the effort to find an alternate site for our two sectionals next year. Possible sites include the VA, the school district, the Japanese Center, Hollywood Park, and the Proud Bird restaurant.

SEE YOU LATER, ALLIGATOR – Next mtg: Monday, January 8, 2007, 6:30 p.m., at the home of Howard and Sandy Einberg, 2620 Kelton. Officers will be elected.