

UNIT 160 BOARD MEETING

Anderson Sectional
Saturday, May 6, 2000
5:30 pm

ATTENDING: George Nichols, John Hurd, Spencer Hurd, Jane Hunt, Richard Brown, DaMaris Rorie, Mike Bitonti, Scott Stearns, Jeff Ziemer, Carmelita Hopkins, Jim Current, Bo Coward, Lyman Wooster Jim Lancaster, Bob Webb for Louise Burns, Charles Hunt for Charlie Lohfeld, Ann Wooster for Martin Johnson, Richard Guarneri for Kitty Altman, and Pat Webb

ABSENT: Jack Healy, Mark McLaughlin, Gwen Beckman, Glenn Savage, Carolyn Sanders, Tony Devereaux, and Evelyn Brandon

PRESIDENT Nichols called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2000 MEETING were approved as mailed, with Jim Current moving and Scott Stearns seconding.

TREASURER reported the following Unit funds:

Cash \$5,326.40, CD's \$15,832.42

President Nichols proudly noted that \$1,484.00 had been paid to the Unit by the ACBL because of the Unit's excellent participation in the ACBL's Growth and Retention program. Payments to participating units were based on 1) number of new members, 2) reversing a negative trend, and 3) percent of gain (of new members).

George also commended Jim Current on his excellent attention to our dinner for this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Sectional Tournament (Gwen Beckman, Coordinator) - in Gwen's absence, George reminded everyone that Applications for Sectional Tournaments must be sent to Gwen for her approval before they are forwarded to District 7. In order to receive necessary unit approval, Gwen must receive a final accounting for the current year's tournament.
- B. Hall of Fame and Legion of Service - Chairman Richard Brown encouraged that recommendations for these two awards be made to him or one of his committee (Carolyn Sanders, Jack Healy, or Jane Hunt). This committee will be working on guidelines for the Legion of Service.
- C. Novice - Chairman Kitty Altman was not at this meeting.
- D. Judiciary - Chairman Bo Coward (thankfully) had nothing to report.
- E. Hospitality - Chairman Jim Lancaster had nothing to report.
- F. Disciplinary - Chairman Spencer Hurd had nothing to report.
- G. Publicity - Chairman Lyman Wooster has been considering ways for publicizing unit sectional tournaments. ACBL's Jean Paterson has been very helpful to Lyman. Lyman will make available to any

interested individuals a 7-page printout with many suggestions for getting your "story" accepted by the media.

H. Charity - Chairman Carolyn Sanders was not present.

I. Pre-Empts Editor - Spencer Hurd did write-ups on several of the new board members in the current issue. He would like to hear from each new member. He also likes to write up new Life Masters. Please encourage players in your respective regions to send him news of interest. A suggestion was made that we return to mailing the PPE to all Unit 160 members. The expense of this undertaking would probably eliminate one or two issues a year. Attendees were asked their opinion of the current dissemination process. Hilton Head members felt that the current process is working fine; Scott Stearns and Carmelita Hopkins concurred.

J. Electronic Coordinator - Mike Bitonti reminded everyone that the home page for the Unit's website can be found at www.scbridge.org. When asked if Unit 160 tournament winners shouldn't be displayed on our website, Mike reminded everyone that these winners can be found on Mid-Atlantic's website. Mike will attempt to scan some of the past PPE issues on to our website. Again, Mike reminded everyone that there is space for local club information; if your club has a website, it can be linked to the Unit's site. Send it to webmaster@scbridge.org. Our current provider, Host Depot, will be increasing its prices; but Mike has learned of Interland, which is another web hosting provider.

F. Membership - Coordinator George Nichols thanked Jane Hunt, Kitty Altman, Evelyn Brandon, Carmelita Hopkins, and DaMaris Rorie for their hard work in contacting Unit 160's new members and those ex-members who have not renewed their membership. These individuals (along with George!) were very instrumental in Unit 160's receiving the \$1,484 Membership Growth and Retention rebate. Of the 309 units in ACBL, just 127 were eligible for the marketing bonus.

REPRESENTATION ON DISTRICT 7 BOARD - Unit 160 is entitled to seven voting members on this board. Currently Unit 160's representatives are: Pat Seiler, George Nichols, Jim Current, Margaret Hill, Richard Brown, and Spencer Hurd. Wayne Hollingsworth does not count in our basic allotment, as he is an officer. George reported that he had recruited Giles Belski of the Myrtle Beach area to be our seventh representative.

GRAND NATIONAL TEAM REPORT - Just nine teams (4 "B" teams and 5 "C" teams) played in the district semi-final in Columbia. There just doesn't seem to be much interest in this annual event at the local level. In 1999 the following Unit 160 clubs held local GNT qualifiers: Anderson (18 teams in two qualifiers); Charleston (6 teams); Columbia (8 teams in two qualifiers); Aiken (8 teams); Walterboro (5 teams); and Greenville (16 teams in a one session event and 6 teams in a round robin). All board members are strongly encouraged to urge club managers in their area to promote this event for 2001. Local qualifying begins in October. Players in Unit 160's semi-final are fortunate to have Tournament Director Allen Brooks of Aiken to direct this event for free. We were able to charge just \$60 per team instead of the \$80 charged at the other three sites.

SUPER CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP - George handed out information on this new ACBL event. A club must have participated in at least seven of nine programs in order to hold a Super Club Championship. Masterpoints are paid at 1/2 red and 1/2 black. Many club managers may not know about this new event.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP - the ACBL has authorized the holding of an annual State Championship. This would not follow unit or district boundaries but the geographic area of the state. District Director Bruce Reeve has suggested that states in the district (GA, NC, SC, and eastern TN) look into this possibility. Just over 50% of our 1,799 members have less than 100 MPs. A State Championship would give us a chance to set up more categories (than the three of the North American Pairs Championship). Possibly this division would work nicely: 1) less than 20 MPS (462 members); 2) 20 to 100 MPS (460 members); 3) 100 to NLM (352 members); 4) LM to 1,000 (376 members); 5) over 1,000 (145 members). George asked all to think about this and come up with suggestions to be discussed at the next meeting in Columbia in August.

UNIT 160's STAC 2001 will be held February 12-18, 2001 (with the same format as this year)

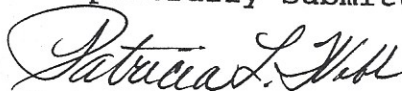
MENTORING - is being strongly encouraged as a way to attract (and retain) new members. Encourage your local club managers to occasionally hold Master/Nonmaster (or some such) games.

AUDREY GRANT TEXTS are available (@ \$7) - see Pat or George

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS UNIT FINALS will be held: 1) Flight C on October 14 at the Saturday game of the Aiken Tournament; 2) Flights A and B will be a concurrent event in the Columbia area on Sunday, October 29. Richard Brown suggested that our attendance might increase if we made this a one-session event instead of the usual two sessions with lunch served between sessions. Board members were asked to give this serious thought and come to the August board meeting with a firm recommendation.

NEXT MEETING - at Columbia's sectional tournament the first weekend in August. Columbia will use a new format with a morning and afternoon session and a quick lunch served between sessions. This would not give enough time for a meeting between sessions. A vote for the time of our meeting in Columbia was taken: 8:30 am Saturday, August 5; 7:00 pm (or as soon as the second session is over) Saturday; or 8:30 am Sunday, August 6. 7:00 pm on Saturday nosed out 8:30 am on Saturday by 7 votes to 5. No one was in favor of Sunday morning.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia L. Webb