

ACBL UNIT 191 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, December 16, 1999

The Bridge Center, Carrboro

Present

Connie McManus
James Migliore
William Louv
Pat Bodoh
Robert Boggs
Nancy Connolly
Nick Keebler
Carol McCaskill
Joanna Pagano
Erlinda Wehrman

Absent

Philip Erlenbach
Glenn Marek

Meeting called to order by President McManus.

Minutes of previous meeting distributed; approved as presented.

Election of officers by acclamation for year 2000

President: Connie McManus
Vice-President: Philip Erlenbach
Secretary: Pat Bodoh
Treasurer: Bill Louv

Chairpersons/Coordinators appointed

Membership Chairperson: Glenn Marek
Recorder: Mary Sue Roach
Tournament Coordinator: Nick Keebler
Hospitality CoChairpersons: Erlinda Wehrman & Joanna Pagano
Disciplinary Chairperson: Harrison Brooke
Publicity Chairperson: Bob Boggs
Novice Chairperson: Gwen Boggs
Unit Education Liaison: Carol McCaskill
NAOP/GNT Coordinators: Erlinda Wehrman & Joanna Pagano
Historical Records & Inventory: Gisela Migliore
Transportation Coordinator: Jim Migliore
Annual Meeting Coordinator: Mary Sue Roach
Charity Chairperson: Carol McCaskill
Sectional Tournament Coordinator: Sue Torrey
Partnership Coordinator: Larry Honeywell
Alert Newsletter Editor: Marilyn Kelley

Announcement that Marilyn Kelly will continue as newsletter editor; Phil Erlenbach will compile specific information for printing.

Determined to continue with the unit championship games as has been done the previous 2/3 years. Besides being able to award more points, the funds which are generated provide more than sufficient funds for the newsletter expenses.

**ACBL Unit 191
Board of Directors' Meeting
The Bridge Center, Carrboro, NC
Thursday, November 18th, 1999**

Present: Bob Boggs, Nancy Connolly, Phil Erlenbach, Bill Louv, Connie McManus, Glenn Marek, Jim Migliore, Joanna Pagano, Erlinda Wehrman

Absent: Nick Keehbler, Carol McCaskill

Minutes of the Meeting

Unit President, Connie McManus, called the meeting to order. Nancy questioned the portion of the minutes that stated that Nancy was supposed to write the wording for the post cards. She was only aware that she should write the ballots, not the post cards. The last sentence on the first paragraph of page two stating that Phil volunteered to keep the records, would be changed to Gisela volunteered to keep the records. The rest of the Minutes of the October 14th 1999 meeting were approved.

Bill Louv gave the financial report. He gave hand outs of the Profit and Loss report from 11/30/98 to 11/16/99 which showed a profit of \$214.70 and the Activity Report from 8/23/99 to 11/16/99. He felt the financial report for the fiscal year which he will give at the Annual Meeting would be substantially the same as this report.

Glenn Marek gave the membership report. For New Members Retained we ranked 9th out of 12 for our district and 187th out of approximately 360 for the country. Member loses were 27. We had started with 345 members. We were 12th out of 12 for the district and 232nd out of approximately 360 for the nation. New members were 43 which gives a current total of 361 which is a 11.91% increase which ranks 2nd out of 12 for the district and 23rd out of 360 for the country. Active Trend is +5.25% which is 4th out of 12 for the district and 52nd out of 360 for the nation. While we are doing well on recruiting new members our retention rate is poor.

Connie announced that Sue Torrey did not win the election that the board had voted on in our past meeting. Glenn said he didn't think it was right that ACBL gave out the information to Sue that some of the members of the Board did not vote for her. It was decided that Glenn would write a letter to Jean Patterson, Director of Elections for ACBL and with Connie's concurrence, Connie would sign the letter objecting to this procedure of reporting the results of the voting by Unit number.

Connie announced that Gisela Migliore has resigned from the Board. This means we will have to add to the ballot an additional name for the voting for the Board at the Annual Meeting. The following names were suggested as candidates to Nancy. Jim Hansell, Susan Parker, Sarah Chambers, Pat Bodoh, Mike Kawalec, Tom Vankai and Betty Greenwall. Nancy will ask them if they are interested in running. Nancy mentioned that Sarah Chambers and four of her friends are a group who play recorders and would perform at our Annual Meeting if we liked. The Board decided against this. The Board also decided not to have prizes at the Annual Meeting. It was decided to dispense with the Board Meeting at the Annual Dinner as we will have a regular Board

Meeting on December 16th. We will elect officers then. Jim Migliore announced that he will not run for secretary.

Bob gave out the results of the survey about the tournament. The vote for Friday's game time was 1 pm and 7 pm. For Saturday was 10 am and 3:30 pm. The Sunday Swiss to start at 10 am. The vote for single or double sessions was close so it was felt that if you have double sessions with singles sessions allowed you would be covering both bases. We should have a 1-100 section in all pairs events. To offer a free or half-price fee for 0 - 5 point players for Friday night. For the break off of strats was not decided as the question was not worded properly. Bob Boggs felt the top strat should be 1,000. There was 4 volunteers for Set-up crew, 3 for Clean-up crew, 5 for Hospitality, 2 for Transportation and 4 for Other (Mostly Food). The Survey will be turned over to Sue Torrey with the volunteer names.

Bill Louv asked Bob if he can't be moved into the new Bridge Center location by January 1st what will we do? Bob said the contractor is shooting for January 1st and that Mr. McGwire the owner of the current Bridge Center location may grant an extension on the moving deadline of December 31st. The price of playing will increase to \$5.00 at the new location.

The Bridge Center is signed up for the MABC STaC starting on the week of the 13th. This will include from Florida to Ohio. George Bloomer has arranged to move the GNT semi final to the Bridge Center.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, December 16th 1999 at 11:00 am at The Bridge Center in Carrboro.

**ACBL Unit 191
Board of Directors' Meeting
The Bridge Center, Carrboro, NC
Thursday, October 14th, 1999**

Present: Bob Boggs, Nancy Connolly, Phil Erlenbach, Nick Keebler, Bill Louv, Carol McCaskill, Connie McManus, Gisela Migliore, Jim Migliore, Joanna Pagano, Mary Sue Roach (visitor), Erlinda Wehrman

Absent: Glenn Marek

Minutes of the Meeting

Unit President, Connie McManus, called the meeting to order. The Minutes of the August 26th 1999 meeting were approved as written.

Mary Sue Roach gave a report on the annual meeting party. It will be at The Carolina Inn on December 5th. It will be in a different room than last year. It officially starts at 1:00 PM but you can come at 12:30 PM and get your meal and sit down. There will be continuous beverage service through out the meal. The price is the same as last year, \$18.50 per person and 25% gratuities which is \$23.13. The director will get \$50.00 plus dinner. The ballots and seat assignment will be handed out as people enter. After the meal and meeting we will move to a separate room which will be already set up. The time is scheduled for 2:45 but we may be finished sooner. She will check with them if it makes any difference if we start playing before 2:45. We have to let Carolina Inn know how many people are coming three working days before the event. We will not have a bar this year but there is a bar near the restaurant, which is close by. We are having the same menu as last year except salmon instead of scallops this year. Bob Boggs said he would get the postcards out advertising the annual meeting by the first of November. Bob asked Mary Sue for a draft of the card. Mary Sue suggested we award prizes for the top four finishers but it was tabled for discussion at a later date. The cost for the annual dinner was voted at \$20.00 for members and \$25.00 for non members.

Bob Boggs announced that he has located a new location for The Bridge Center but he couldn't tell us more as he is still negotiating with them. He said the place was smaller.

Connie discussed the voting for the four board members whose term expires at the end of this year. That would be Connie, Carol, Phil and Bob. All four agreed to run again. Nancy agreed to be the coordinator for the ballots and wording to go on the post cards. Nick suggested that when we have a job to be done, that we should document it and a file started so that it can be handed over to the next person that has to do that same job. Jim said he would keep the files.

Connie said she received from ACBL, a letter asking the Board to replace Ruth Wainwright as tournament coordinator. Connie wanted to expand the duties of the tournament director to include the NAOP final in the year 2003. Nick agreed to be the new tournament coordinator.

Erlinda gave a report on the NAOP. Erlinda supplied all the refreshments herself.

Connie gave a report on the Pro Am. She had talked to Marilyn the night before. There were 12 tables. The break was different between the Pros and the Ams. This year it was at 220 points. Connie said Marilyn recommended that we have a written contract to spell out all costs and prices to make it easier each year. There was a motion to this effect that was carried. Bill gave the financial figures. There were 48 players at \$5.00 each = \$240.00, site rental \$144.00, \$36.00 to the director, \$12.00 to ACBL leaving a unit profit of \$48.00. Jim said he had heard Mary Sasse suggest that all the pros should sit in the same direction. For instance it would be announced before the start of the game that all pros sit north and east. The board thought it was a good idea but did not vote on it. There was more discussion on compiling a history of each type of event, Pro Am, NAOP, Sectionals etc. Phil volunteered to keep the records.

Bob had nothing to report on the survey for next years sectional.

Bill said he looked around for a new facility but he needs a few parameters. He has to know the minimum and maximum amount of space, 2,000 to 3,000 feet. He has to know if we need 40 parking spaces. Nick asked if Bob would advise him by E-mail if he gets a place as several people are looking around and some people wind up going to the same place that someone has already visited. Bob requested that they give him the phone number and he would follow it up. When asked when he would know for certain the place he was now considering, Bob said in about a week and he thought that the card fees would go up to \$5.00. Bob said he needed a place around 2,000 square feet, 40 parking spaces, two bathrooms and a kitchen would be nice. Bob said the current owner of the present Bridge Center location has agreed to reimburse him for the \$500.00 he spent on the air conditioning system. Nick suggest he have little cards printed up saying 'We will no longer patronize your establishment as we won't be playing bridge after 12/31/99 as the Bridge Center had to move' and hand it out to Eckerd, Subway, Food Lion etc. Bob then told us that Jim Hansell had written a letter to the landlord telling how many times he and his wife shopped at each store and projected forward for a year and it came out to some thing like 2,500 hits for some of these stores. Jim Migliore asked why can't we ask everyone to parking in the back. We could have the handicapped players pull up to the front and someone could park their car for them in the back. Bob said the cameras only covered 12 parking spots.

Nancy asked if we should discontinue disseminating the bridge flyers as the address of The Bridge Center will change. The Board agreed not to continue to distribute them.

Phil said that he spoke to Marilyn and that the Alert Newsletter will have a column or profile on each Board Member. Phil has made a form which he put in every ones folder. He asks that we complete it and put it back into his folder before November 1st.

The meeting was adjourned.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, November 18th 1999 at 11:00 am at The Bridge Center in Carrboro.

**ACBL Unit 191
Board of Directors' Meeting
The Bridge Center, Carrboro, NC
Thursday, August 26th, 1999**

Present: Bob Boggs, Nancy Connolly, Phil Erlenbach, Nick Keebler,
Bill Louv, Connie McManus, Glenn Marek, Gisela Migliore,
Jim Migliore, Joanna Pagano, Erlinda Wehrman

Absent: Carol McCaskill

Minutes of the Meeting

Unit President, Connie McManus, called the meeting to order. The Minutes of the July 15th 1999 meeting required the following corrections:

Bob Boggs asked that the last sentence of the second paragraph on page 2, 'He is changing his will to ensure this.' be deleted. Also the sentence, 'He will use the interest to pay the playing fee of special games over the nominal \$4.00' be changed to read 'interest and principle'. The balance of the minutes were approved.

Connie gave out the ballots for the election of candidates to the Board of Governors Representative, District 7. Connie read letters from two of the candidates, Reba Jernigan and Sue Torrey, requesting our votes. The sealed ballots were then passed to Jim Migliore for mailing to the ACBL. A request for an absentee ballot by Carol was included in the package. Connie reminded Jim that he must include a roster of the Board Members with the mailing.

Bill Louv gave out copies of the unit's financial statement to each board member.

Connie reported that she had called the managing editor of the ACBL Bulletin to tell them about Ruth Wainwright's gift to the Bridge Center and Bob & Gwen's plans to use this gift for the benefit of the players. He asked Connie to send more details and a picture of Ruth and he would run a story in the October Bulletin.

The Board discussed memorials, what we do to honor our members who die and what we should do. Currently, Marilyn Kelley sends a condolence card from the Unit and Bob puts a memorial label on a set of bidding boxes. Concern was expressed about sparse attendance sometimes at funerals and celebrations of life. Nick Keebler suggested a telephone chain to notify members about deaths and time and place of formalities and agreed to set up such a system for us. It was suggested that Board Members attend all such events. We discussed contributions to deceased's charities and decided not to make donations at this time because of limited resources. We agreed to continue the condolence cards and bidding box recognition.

In connection with this topic, Bob Boggs showed the plaques with 12 nameplates to be used for the winners of the Felicite Lantane Memorial Game. Bob said Felicite's son has promised to give The Bridge Center a portrait of her which he will mount along with the plaque by her table. It was understood that the extra recognition for her was given because of her roll in the establishment of The Bridge Center.

It was discussed whether we should continue the Alert Newsletter. The board felt we should continue and furthermore encourage people to supply Marilyn with information to publish. Glenn said he felt we should write more about the training classes that are going on in the field. It was suggested that we have a board member act as a reporter for the Alert and supply Marilyn with news. Phil volunteered and said he felt we should have a newcomer column. Jim suggested we have a personality of the month with background of the individual. Glenn suggested an article on a bid that was geared toward the novice player. Connie asked Phil to call Marilyn to inform her that he would help gather news for her.

On the subject of the forthcoming Pro Am, Joanna had brought the football schedule to help with the selection of the date. Connie said that Marilyn had asked whether she was to run the Pro Am again this year and Connie told her, yes, please. Marilyn said her preferential dates are October 2nd and October 9th. It was decided that we would let Marilyn choose the date that would be convenient for her. Fortunately, both dates are away games.

Glenn handed everyone a copy of his membership report. He said we are getting quite a few new members which he attributes to Bob's Easy Bridge classes. The main problem is in the retention of non life masters. Glenn said that Larry Honeywell has accepted the role of partnership Chairman and has already started matchmaking. Larry has started a data base of people who are looking for partners and of the days they can play. People will call him and he from his data base can give the person a couple of names for him to call. Larry has a list of mentors and he is thinking about having the mentor play with a member in the Tuesday 199 game once a month. Bob explained that a mentor with more than 199 points could play, but neither he nor his partner could be credited with earned master points.

Bob passed around a draft of a survey for next year's sectional. The board suggested to change the stratification (item 5) for open pair games to read:

500 - 750 - 1500

and to say under item 4:

single session pairs events

double session pairs events, with single session players welcome

Furthermore it was suggested to change the first paragraph so as to sound a little more positive. Bob was asked to proceed with the survey.

Bob also showed samples of a pamphlet which he intends to distribute to various hotels, motels, retirement homes, and community centers, names and addresses of which Gisela had given him. According to Bob, Office Depot would charge for copying 12 cents a copy on colored paper and 8 cents a copy on white paper. Bob said that he himself would print them for 10 cents each on colored paper or for 6 cents a copy on white. The Board agreed to let Bob do them in color at 10 cents each. He will also adhere a sticker with contact and telephone number on the pamphlet, in case someone requires and additional supply. The Board agreed it should be Bob's telephone number and he said he would use his home number as he didn't want it to appear as if this was a Bridge Center publication.

Bob read a communiqué from unit 119 in Pinehurst asking us if we wanted to join a STAC that they are running the week off 11/29. This would include our annual party on 12/5. The Board voted to participate in the STAC games.

Erlinda gave a report on the NAOP

The meeting was adjourned.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, October 14th 1999 at 11:00 am at The Bridge Center in Carrboro.

**ACBL Unit 191
Board of Directors' Meeting
The Bridge Center, Carrboro, NC
Thursday, July 15th, 1999**

Present: Bob Boggs, Nancy Connolly, Bill Louv, Connie McManus, Gisela Migliore, Jim Migliore

Absent: Phil Erlenback, Carol McCaskill, Glenn Marek, Joanna Pagano, Erlinda Wehrman

Minutes of the Meeting

Unit President, Connie McManus, called the meeting to order. The Minutes of the June 17th 1999 meeting required the following corrections:

Bill Louv felt that the Unit should not have to support such a high subsidy (rather than could not support)

The board then voted and approved of Bob Bogg's suggestions as outlined in his letter of 5/20/99 (should be added except for trophies)

In compliance with ACBL's request, Connie McManus informed us that we need to nominate "A Good Will Member of the Year" (should be may nominate)

Otherwise the Minutes were approved.

Connie showed the regulations for voting for officers of the ACBL. The voting must take place between August 15th and September 30th. There will be four candidates, we can vote for any three. The candidates could appear before the Board if they wish.

We have two new board members, Nancy Connolly and Joanna Pagano, replacing Joyce Bair and Harrison Brooke. To replace Ruth Wainwright, Connie asked Gus Gustafson but he said he is traveling too much to be a member. It was discussed and agreed that Connie would ask Jim Perry, Bob Lenkeit and Tom Spector if they would serve.

Erlinda had a doctor's appointment this morning so there will be no NAOP report. Bob Boggs asked if there was a director assigned to it. The Board didn't know and would ask Erlinda this afternoon, when she played.

There was a discussion on the date of our next board meeting. Jim Migliore said he and Gisela would be in Hunt Valley on August 19th, so Connie scheduled the next board meeting for August 26th.

Jim Migliore questioned if we had a quorum to hold this meeting. Connie explained that at the present time we had only eleven members, so the six in attendance was a quorum.

Connie gave everyone a report by Harrison Brooke on expenses of the annual meeting including the subsidy per person for the years 1993 through 1997. Bill Louv supplied the 1998 subsidy. It was agreed to accept Mary Sue Roach's request that the unit subsidize \$5.00 per person, provided the Carolina Inn's cost remains the same. We also want to eliminate the bartender and have the director in charge to be a local director and not pay a fee for the use of the directors computer.

Bill Louv gave a talk on fiscal planning. He feels his investigation is complete and he will keep his information on file in the event the unit needs to move in that direction. The Board agreed.

Bob Boggs announced that last Thursday he had a visit from 2 of Ruth Wainwright's sons, who presented Bob with a check for a substantial amount to be used by the Bridge Center. He has deposited it in a money market account. He will use the interest to pay the playing fee of special games over the normal \$4.00. If and when he pulls out of the Bridge Center, the unused money from this gift will go the unit. He is changing his will to ensure this.

Bob also announced that he had heard that the Thursday night game at the Senior Center has died. He has been given a petition with 17 names on it by Hugon Karwowski, requesting that he start a Thursday night open game. It would be held in the back room and if he had more than 6 tables then he can have up to 4 more tables in the class room/board meeting room. It would probably start the beginning of September. He will not need a sanction as it will not be another club, just another section. He will hire Paul Williams to assist.

Four years ago, Bob Boggs had printed brochures giving the 8 games we had at that time in the area. He put them in Hotels and Chamber of Commerce. He would like the Board's approval to do the same again. Gisela volunteered herself and Jim to compile a list of Hotels for Bob to supply with brochures. Bob said he would put a label on the back of the brochure with someone's name and phone to contact for more information. He felt it should not be his name or the Bridge Center as this is a unit project. It was suggested that it should be Glenn Marek, who is the Membership Chairman but was not at the meeting to accept. The Board approved Bob's making of the brochures.

The Board approved the purchase of a plaque with twelve name plates to be inscribed with the name of the overall winners of the Felicite Lantane memorial game.

Bob Boggs will start an Easy Bridge Tuesday morning game, 9:30 to 12:15 on September 14th.

Connie spoke about memorials. What should we do when a member passes away. Bob now puts a label on a bidding box in memory of that person. The topic will be shelved for the next meeting.

Connie stated that Marilyn Kelley questioned the value of our Alert newsletter. Gisela agreed as Bob already has a newsletter. The topic was also shelved for our next Board meeting.

Jim Migliore said he had asked Marilyn Kelley if she would again run our annual Pro/Am. She said yes provided she would be in town. She would be out of town between July 21st through August 1st, August 5th through August 8th, August 13th through August 16th and October 15th through October 25th. Bob Boggs said the game should be in October. October 2nd and October 9th were suggested. Connie said we should check the football schedule which she had given to Erlinda, who was not in attendance. It was decided to take this up at the next meeting.

(Tape ran out here and not noticed at first)

(New tape started)

Connie had some pictures of the winners from our last sectional that Sue Torrey gave her. It was suggested that they be displayed on the wall of the Bridge Center.

Jim Migliore showed Connie a copy of the Tournament Evaluation Form that ACBL had sent him. He had completed it and returned it to ACBL.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, August 26th 1999 at 11:00 am at The Bridge Center in Carrboro.

The meeting was adjourned.

**ACBL Unit 191
Board of Directors' Meeting
The Bridge Center, Carrboro, NC
Thursday, June 17th, 1999**

Present: Bob Boggs, Harrison Brooke, Bill Louv, Glenn Marek,
Carol McCaskill, Connie McManus, Gisela Migliore, Jim
Migliore, Erlinda Wehrman, Sue Torrey (guest)

Absent: Joyce Bair, Phil Erlenback, Ruth Wainwright

Minutes of the Meeting

Unit President, Connie McManus, called the meeting to order. The Minutes of the April 22nd 1999 meeting required the following corrections:

Betty Whyte (rather than Betty White)

Bob Boggs reported that an Easy Bridge WEB site will soon be available (rather than: Bob Boggs reported that Easy Bridge will soon be available on the internet)

Otherwise the Minutes were approved.

Harrison: ACBL news bulletin re unit chairs - effective 4/1 but informed only 4/15.

Bill Louv asked if anyone had completed the "Club Run Bridge Center Data" form he had given out at the last Board Meeting. He showed us a pamphlet he had gotten from Atlanta on "Birth of a Bridge Club". He said it was very good.

Connie said based on the survey, the majority wants the Annual Meeting/X-Mas Party to be at the Carolina Inn for lunch. A deposit has been sent in to reserve Sunday, Dec. 5th, 1999. Harrison said Mary Sue wants the Unit to subsidize \$5.00/per person. Records show that last year's cost per member was \$22.00 and for 96 persons attending, the Unit portion/subsidy was \$360.00. Bill Louv felt that the Unit could not support such a high subsidy. Harrison indicated that Mary Sue would not consider being in charge of the event if the Unit would not meet her request for the \$5.00 subsidy. Bill Louv said that no one should make such demands. Connie McManus proposed that we postpone further discussions until we get additional information on how much the event will cost the unit.

Bill Louv handed everyone a copy of the Financial Report (Activity Report) which showed that a deposit of \$750.00 had been made for the Annual Meeting to the Colonial Inn (should read: Carolina Inn). It also showed that the Bright Leaf Sectional, run by Sue Torrey, May 7 - 9, 1999 at the Mebane Arts & Community Center resulted in a profit of \$629.23 (cost \$3502.00 versus income \$4131.23). We all thanked Sue Torrey for saving the Unit money by putting up the out of town director, Marie Killoran, at her house rather than having the director stay at a hotel. Compared to the event held in 1998, Sue Torrey kept the expenses, such as dinners on Sunday, table rental and caddies lower. In addition, of course, the lower rental fee of the site was much lower than for the past years. Though we have already applied and received sanction to hold next year's Bright Leaf Sectional on June 16-18, 2000, we need to check with Debbie Leichner, who handled the reservation for the 1999 event, whether the dates for 2000 are reserved and if a contract should be drawn up and signed by Connie McManus, our president. Jim Migliore said he

would speak to Debbie. Sue Torrey indicated that she could see us run three games on Saturday of our sectional tournament in 2000, starting with a game at 9:00 am. She mentioned that it would increase the director's fee only slightly. One director would run the morning, two the afternoon and one run the evening game. It was suggested to possibly distribute questionnaires to unit members and outsiders in order to take a survey on how they felt about three games a day on the Saturday of the Sectional Tournament. Sue Torrey furthermore brought up the importance of properly and thoroughly informing other units of our next Sectional Tournament. Carol McCaskill felt that a good way to inform other units would be to inform the various club directors in other towns so that they could make announcements at their games and have available sufficient flyers advertising our Sectional Tournament for their players. Connie McManus urged to us to move on with the meeting and proposed to discuss the Sectional Tournament 2000 at the next meeting.

Bob Boggs passed around to all board members his thoughts and proposal dated 5/20/99 on a yearly Memorial Game in honor of Felicite Latane who died on 2/11/99. No one objected to a yearly memorial game provided Bob Boggs would convey a simple message to the players, namely that without Felicite's generosity, our Bridge Center in Carrboro might never have been possible. No one, however, seemed to be interested in acquiring trophies for the winners. The board then voted and approved of Bob Bogg's suggestions as outlined in his letter of 5/20/99. EXCEPT TROPHIES

Erlinda Wehrman accepted the chairperson position for the NAOP. There will be qualifier games on each of the months of June, July and August. The NAOP final will be held some time in September on a Saturday at The Bridge Center with consideration of the UNC and Duke football games. Marilyn Kelley, the Editor of our Alert Newsletter will be asked to print details in due time.

Glenn Marek handed to every board member the latest status on "Unit 191 Membership 1999" according to which the unit shows a total of 333 members. Glenn is in close contact with ACBL and receives detailed "in and out" reports in addition to a specific "call" list which identifies life masters and other players which have not renewed their membership with ACBL. Glenn admits to slight discrepancies between ACBL's and his records but is certain that he will be able to coincide with ACBL. Glenn reported that he has a small committee that will go after inactive players. Glenn would like to be marketing the 99 game. Glenn talked to Larry Honeywell who is willing to become the "partnership Chairperson" for the unit. Larry will write an article which he will ask Marilyn Kelley to print in the next Alert Newsletter. Glenn did not get any response to his article "Bridge Playing Mentors Needed" - see Alert Newsletter May-June 1999. Jim Migliore and Bill Louv volunteered to be mentors.

Sue Torrey brought up something with regard to "unpaid life masters" and according to ACBL, they might have to pay an additional \$1.00 if they want to play and get points recorded.

Harrison Brooke took off on "rebates on increases for ACBL charges". Apparently David Silver issued in mid-January, pages and pages of information on the subject and if we don't comply, ACBL will withhold unit rebates. Harrison studied the subject papers carefully and realizes that ACBL's shares for a playing life master, non life master, as well as for new members are going up, however, the rebates for the unit's clubs remain the same. According to Sue Torrey, who is on the Board of Governors of District 7, discussions are going on at the Mid-Atlantic meetings about the sanction increases. She urges club directors to write letters requesting explanations regarding rebates to the unit directors in order to get some kind of feed-back.

Bob Boggs reported on Easy Bridge. He has recruited 43 new members during the last two years. Now that ACBL took over Easy Bridge, Edith McMullen will be working for them. ACBL will rebate to Easy Bridge directors 40% of their cost of running Easy Bridge. District 7 has allocated \$5,000.00 to support Easy Bridge. On September 14th 1999, Tuesday morning, The Bridge Center will run a new Easy Bridge course. The first six lessons as well as the books are free.

In compliance with ACBL's request, Connie McManus informed us that we ^{may} need to nominate "A Good Will Member of the Year". The deadline to submit this information to ACBL is September 30th, 1999. Jim Migliore suggest Glenn Marek but he declined saying he was only doing his job.

Jim Migliore gave Connie an Evaluation Form the ACBL had sent him on the directors of our 1999 Sectional.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, July 15th 1999 at 11:00 am at The Bridge Center in Carrboro.

The meeting was adjourned.

**ACBL Unit 191
Board of Directors' Meeting
The Bridge Center, Carrboro, NC
Thursday, April 22, 1999**

Present: Bob Boggs, Bill Louv, Glenn Marek,
Carol McCaskill, Connie McManus, Jim
Migliore, Erlinda Wehrman, Sue Torrey (guest)

Absent: Joyce Bair, Phil Erlenback, Gisela Migliore, Ruth
Wainwright

Minutes of the Meeting

Unit President, Connie McManus, called the meeting to order. The Minutes of the March 18th 1999 meeting were accepted as written.

Bill Louv gave a detailed bimonthly treasurer's report and discussed fiscal planning.

Glenn Marek gave a new membership update. We have 7 new members and have lost 3 in transfers and 10 renewables for a total of 355 members. ACBL dues will increase on July 1st 1999. Glenn reported that a mailing was sent to 99ers urging them to come out to the tournament. A membership committee has been appointed consisting of Betty White, Ann Merzbacher, Connie McManus (ex officio) and Larry Honeywell.

Connie McManus reported on official meetings at the Gatlinburg regional tournament. Membership was the big topic along with Easy Bridge. It was announced that ACBL by 2000 will be able to report for us our members who are not playing. Bob Boggs reported that Easy Bridge will soon be available on the internet. *WEN 2.6*

Sue Torrey gave a progress report on our Sectional tournament. She handed out a list of restaurants in and near Mebane. She reported the menu for Sunday's lunch and our cost of \$6.25. There was a suggestion that we look into increasing the cost of Sunday's fees for next year to cover our expenses.

Bob Boggs gave a report on the survey. While the return was not very large, responses favored one tournament over two, all ACBL special games, club championships and unit pro-am. Responses also favored location, time and director of the annual meeting unit championship holiday buffet December 6, 1998.

Connie McManus asked for suggestions for a replacement for the vacancy on the board. Several names were given. The board gave her authority to proceed to select and appoint the replacement.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, May 20th 1999 at 11:00 am at The Bridge Center in Carrboro. **NOTE: THIS DATE HAS SINCE BEEN CHANGED TO JUNE 17TH**

The meeting was adjourned.

**ACBL Unit 191
Board of Directors' Meeting
The Bridge Center, Carrboro, NC
Thursday, March 18th, 1999**

Present: Bob Boggs, Philip Erlenbach, Bill Louv, Glenn Marek,
Carol McCaskill, Connie McManus, Gisela Migliore, Jim
Migliore, Ruth Wainwright, Erlinda Wehrman

Absent: Joyce Bair, Anna Mary Maddy

Minutes of the Meeting

Unit President, Connie McManus, called the meeting to order. The Minutes of the February 18th 1999 meeting were accepted with the following corrections: Ange Dennis is to report bridge at the senior center to the Alert Newsletter not to Connie McManus and Phil Erlenbach does not know if different bridge game schedules for our area will be published in the February 1999 issue of 50th Plus magazine.

Carol McCaskill gave a charity report. Each unit is allowed up to 4 sessions of charity games. The first one must be to a ACBL designated charity. Each club is required to hold one charity game a year. The unit is not required to hold a charity game. A motion was passed not to hold a unit charity game because of scheduling difficulties and holding sanctioned special games and the high cost to players and the unit with little local benefit.

Connie McManus gave a report on the GNT for Anna Mary Maddy, who was absent. We had 9 tables and the unit profit was 7 dollars more than last year due to more food being donated. The scoring errors were corrected and posted at the bridge center.

Connie gave a progress report on our unit sectional based on her discussion with Sue Torrey. Flyers on the tournament will be ready this Friday and Sue will distribute them at the Raleigh Sectional this weekend. Hotel Holiday Inn Express at Hillsborough will give special rates of \$50.00 which is better than last year. Sue is negotiating with caterers. She has one offer from Sonny Toche of a sandwich, pickle, cookie, salad and ice tea for \$6.50 or less. Sue will get supplies at Sam's and will check with Bob Boggs as to what supplies we have left over from our last sectional. Sue has all the bridge tables at her house. Carol McCaskill spoke to Sue and told her how to get free food. Carol said she will try to get coffee donated.

Connie said we had advertised in the Alert Newsletter for directors for the NAOP but did not get any responses. She said that Sue Torrey would be willing to direct any pairs game and that John Torrey would be willing to direct any team game.

Bob Boggs gave a report on education. Easy Bridge starts tonight at the Bridge Center. He is half way through his Easy Bridge Jr. course at McDougale Middle School. The Board agreed to donate \$75.00 to Easy Bridge Jr. for books for the students.

Glenn Marek gave a membership report. In 1998 we had 347 members. We have had one transfer in, one new member and 8 lost members for a present total of 341. The percentage by master points are 0-5 MP 17%, 6-50 MP 34%, 51-299 MP 27% and LM+ 22%. Glenn has been following up people who have let their dues lapse. Our unit is ranked 20th out of over 300 in the nation in retention. Glenn is trying to start a new game at the Senior Center run by Ange Dennis for social bridge.

The need for a daytime Easy Bridge course was expressed to help our effort to reach new members. Carol McCaskill volunteered to attend Easy Bridge accredited course in Gatlingberg if she can arrange to do so.

Mary Sue Roach has reserved the first Sunday in December at the Carolina Inn for the holiday party and annual meeting. The results of the survey was 23 for lunch and 15 for supper.

Phil Erlenbach suggested that Connie McManus write a column for the Alert Newsletter. Gisela Migliore said she would write something about a ruling that was made in Myrtle Beach that she thought was unusual.

Anna Mary Maddy has resigned from the Board of Directors because of conflicting commitments.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, April 22nd 1999 at 11:00 am at The Bridge Center in Carrboro.

**ACBL Unit 191
Board of Directors' Meeting
The Bridge Center, Carrboro, NC
Thursday, February 18th, 1999**

Present: Bob Boggs, Philip Erlenbach, Bill Louv, Anna Mary
Maddy, Carol McCaskill, Connie McManus, Gisela
Migliore, Jim Migliore, Ruth Wainwright, Erlinda Wehrman

Absent: Joyce Bair, Glenn Marek

Minutes of the Meeting

Unit President, Connie McManus, called the meeting to order at 11:05 am. The Minutes of the January 21st 1999 meeting were accepted as written.

Connie McManus talked to Sue Torrey, who could not attend the meeting, regarding the forthcoming sectional tournament in May 1999. Sue had nothing new to report, is still waiting for flyers to come back from the printer, and intends to talk to Erlinda Wehrman, the hospitality chairperson, in due time.

Connie McManus spoke to Ange Dennis and asked him to report news to her on a regular basis about the bridge connected ongoings at the Chapel Hill Senior Center, i.e. his games, Sue Torrey's games, as well as on Jo Anne Vansuch's bridge teaching efforts.

Phil Erlenbach informed the board that he had contacted the 50th Plus magazine back in November of 1998 and received the rates for advertisements. He then asked the magazine whether or not they would accept and print announcements of forthcoming events for free and accordingly we can expect to see an announcement for the different bridge game schedules for our area in their February 1999 issue. In this connection Bob Boggs brought up the possibility of advertising our bridge games on television, on the people's channel 8, however, it would have to be in the name of the Unit - a non-profit organization. He proposed to talk to the people connected with the TV station.

Treasurer, Bill Louv, presented his activity report for the period Nov. 30, 1998 - February 14, 1999 and handed a copy to each board member.

The subject of our annual Christmas dinner/bridge party was brought up and Bob Boggs volunteered to create a written survey to be made available to all bridge players. Points of issue should determine whether people prefer a luncheon followed by bridge or bridge first followed by dinner. In this connection it was decided by the board that we would have a local director direct our next annual meeting bridge game.

In the absence of Glenn Marek, Connie McManus gave the membership report. She indicated that ACBL's interest in "membership retention" is so great that they have come

us with a brand new 50 page document (available for anyone interested at Connie's) which offers rewards to the units. It is, however, quite complex and we need a committee to study and to implement and to follow up on the details outlined. The subject should be discussed again when Glenn Marek is present.

Bill Louv spoke about his ideas for the future, his goal, to assure all members of a suitable place to play bridge in the event the Boggs would close The Bridge Center, where presently the most bridge games in the area are being held. He circulated a two page "transition plan" for establishing a permanent bridge center when and if the current bridge center would cease to exist. Bob Boggs responded most agreeable and interested and his knowledge on how to operate a "bridge center" would be most valuable. Together, Bob Boggs and Bill Louv, intend to investigate and to come up with some figures to achieve this at the next meeting. A motion to approve Bill Louv's "transition plan" was carried. Also Bill Louv's suggestions regarding the immediate goal to create a reserve fund, was welcomed by the board.

In this connection it was brought up if we should run a non-life master sectional tournament possibly in summer, possibly in a school.

Bob Boggs gave an Education report. Bob started his teaching program at McDougale Middle School two weeks ago with 24 students. It was found to be too unwieldy, so the number was reduced to 20 students. A new series of "Easy Bridge" will start on March 18th 1999 at The Bridge Center in Carrboro

Bob Boggs, who represented Unit 191 at the District 7 Board Meeting on February 13th during the Mid-Atlantic Regional in Myrtle Beach, SC learned that the Easy Bridge program, well supported by ACBL, is being held at 19 different sites in the US. In our area only Units 6 & 7 are presently involved in the program, however, the Mid Atlantic Bridge Conference are known to have the finest novice programs. ACBL is talking about sending representatives to the forthcoming tournament in Gatlinburg, TN to specifically check out the interest in Easy Bridge/Intermediate programs.

Bob Boggs furthermore announced that there would be a 49er Swiss Team event at the Bridge Center on March 5th.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, March 18th, 1999 at 11:00 am at The Bridge Center in Carrboro.

**ACBL Unit 191
Board of Directors' Meeting
The Bridge Center, Carrboro, NC
Thursday, January 21st, 1999**

Present: Joyce Bair, Bob Boggs, Philip Erlenbach, Bill Louv, Carol McCaskill, Connie McManus, Glenn Marek, Gisela Migliore, Jim Migliore, Mary Sue Roach, Ruth Wainwright, Erlinda Wehrman

Absent: Anna Mary Maddy

Minutes of the Meeting

Unit President, Connie McManus, called the meeting to order. The Minutes of the December 10th, 1998 meeting were accepted with the exception that the proposal to have a board meeting every month rather than every other month was approved and not defeated as reported and that the GNT Qualifier game for our unit be on March 13 instead of March 14th as reported. Connie reported that Harrison Brooke, Disciplinary Chairman, will chose his disciplinary committee.

Connie requested that the agenda be altered to let Glenn Marek speak first as he could not stay the entire time of the meeting. The subject was "Newcomer Bridge" and Glenn issued and handed to every board member a one page memo called: The phases of newcomer bridge development, constituting his recommendations for improving new player retention. It was suggested that every board member study Glenn's ideas and that the subject be taken up again at the next meeting. Meanwhile the board voted and approved that Glenn Marek may set up a Mini Lecture Social Bridge Game. The location for such a gathering should be in Durham, which was questioned and opposed by Gisela Migliore who felt that a mini lecture social bridge game could run alongside any regular game at The Bridge Center in Carrboro in one of the side rooms. Glenn Marek left the meeting.

With regard to the upcoming Grand National Teams qualifier game - March 13, 1999 - it was mentioned that the cost per table would be \$ 40.00 and that Gwen Boggs would direct the game at The Bridge Center.

Mary Sue Roach came to the meeting to report on our Annual Meeting, the Unit 191 Holiday Gala at the Carolina Inn on December 6, 1998. We had an attendance of 96 persons for dinner and bridge at \$ 22.00 each plus 2 persons for dinner only at \$ 30.00 each. Accordingly we took in \$ 2,172.00 and the Unit had to subsidize \$ 360.00 to cover the cost of \$ 2,310.00 for The Carolina Inn. Mary Sue Roach brought up a couple of suggestions to possibly improve the next Annual Meeting:

- if it is a buffet luncheon: bring out the food promptly and let people start as they arrive at the designated hour.

- the meeting held after the meal was not long enough and did not give the crew sufficient time to clear away the dishes and to prepare the room for the bridge game.
 - The cash bar was set up in a bad location and was not sufficiently utilized. The cash bar should be more accessible.
 - Persons with special diet requests could have been accommodated by The Carolina Inn, but nobody thought of asking or offering.
 - according to Mary Sue Roach no flexibility for late reservations for the annual meeting should be allowed, that is for dinner: yes, for participating in the bridge game: no
- It was requested by the board members that the Club Managers take a poll from our players asking if they prefer lunch or supper at this years' annual meeting.
Mary Sue Roach left immediately after reporting on the annual meeting.

Connie informed the board that Sue Torrey, the tournament chairperson for our sectional tournament May 7, 8, and 9, 1999 was unable to come to give an update, however, had indicated that so far no hotel could be recommended, a proof of the advertisement had not come back from ACBL, something cooking about a caterer in Hillsborough - otherwise all is under control. Carol McCaskill handed Jim Migliore, the Secretary copies of "Tournament Notes" and "Procedures for Sectional Tournaments" and urged the board to remind Sue Torrey that she reserve the rental of card tables from United Rental in Raleigh (876-4095).

Carol McCaskill left the meeting early due to other personal commitments.

Bob Boggs gave an education update report. He has not as yet been asked back to McDougle Middleschool to teach bridge. He is moving along with Easy Bridge III which will end in March. On March 18th he will start another Easy Bridge I.

Since Bob Boggs will be going to Myrtle Beach, week of February 8th, he was appointed the Board's representative for the District 7 Board Meeting in Myrtle Beach. Bob himself will take the necessary steps to make the reservation necessary to attend the District 7 Board Meeting. It was requested of Bob to give the President or Secretary a copy of the e-mail in which he informs the District 7 that he would attend the meeting in Myrtle Beach.

Jim Migliore's suggestion that we revert to Board Meetings every other month was voted down.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, February 18th, 1999 at 11:00 am at The Bridge Center in Carrboro.