

Minutes of the Annual Meeting—Morro Bay Charity Bridge Club  
San Luis Obispo Unit 540  
January 20, 2016

The meeting was opened at 12:28 PM by Unit Vice President Bill Ringbom, who presided in the absence of President Fred Strong. Unit Secretary Charles Davis read the minutes from the last Unit 540 Annual Meeting held on January 10, 2015. Upon completion Bill Ringbom asked if there were any questions and receiving none asked for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was made and seconded and they were approved unanimously by the membership. Unit Treasurer Pat Hallock then followed with a presentation of the Annual Treasurer's report. She advised the membership that the Unit began the year with a bank balance of \$8864.58, \$5487.95 of which was in the checking account and \$3376.63 of which was in the savings account. After \$3161.46 of income and \$1266.79 in expenses, the Unit completed the year with a total balance of \$10,760.26, of which \$7382.62 was in the checking account and \$3377.64 in the savings account. She further advised that the savings account balance was supplemented by \$1.01 of interest. Upon completion Bill Ringbom asked if there were any questions and receiving none asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. The motion was made and seconded and the report was approved unanimously by the membership.

Election: There were five expiring positions on the Board. Fred Strong and Bob Karriker decided to run again for their positions, and together with Leda Fields, Jan Zinner, and Judy Obermeier represented a slate of candidates presented to the membership by Nominating Chair Charles Davis. Bill Ringbom opened to the floor for additional nominations but none were made by the members present. A motion was made and seconded to accept the five candidates comprising the candidate slate. It was passed unanimously by the members in attendance.

The five newly elected Board members—Fred Strong, Bob Karriker, Leda Fields, Jan Zinner and Judy Obermeier—will join Bill Woodson, Louise Abbott, Pat Hallock and Bud Zeuschner to comprise the Unit's Executive Board for 2016.

There being no further official business, Bill Ringbom adjourned the meeting at 12:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Davis, Unit Secretary

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Unit 540 Executive Board  
January 15, 2016

In the absence of Board President Fred Strong, Vice President Bill Ringbom presided over the meeting. Present were Board members Bob Karriker, Bill Ringbom, Bud Zeuschner, Pat Hallock, Charles Davis, Torre Houlgate-West, Bill Woodson, and Education Chair Leda Fields. Absent were board members Fred Strong and Louise Abbott.

1. Call the Meeting to Order. Bill Ringbom handed out copies of the agenda to the board members.
2. Review and Approval of the December minutes. Charles distributed copies to all board members, noting that several minor changes had been proposed since the draft copy of the minutes were sent out. After a brief discussion the minutes were approved with the proposed amendments.
3. Treasurer's Report. Pat distributed copies of December's treasurer's report. After December income of \$210 and expenses of \$366.50, the Unit ended the month with \$7382.62 in its checking account; we received a \$.25 interest payment in December on our savings account, resulting in an ending balance of \$3377.64. The Unit ended the month with a total balance of \$10,760.26. After a brief discussion her report was approved. Pat then further briefed the board on her efforts to update our financial records with California's Franchise Tax Board. They were missing our Forms 199N for 2010-2014, and she supplied those documents to them. We are now completely current on our required filings. There was a brief discussion on payment to Leda and Torre for the beginning classes they were teaching, and the Board authorized two payments—one at the end of the first 6 weeks and one at the end of the second.
4. Old Business
  - A. Update on 2016 Sectional. Noting Louise Abbott's absence Bill postponed much of the discussion on this topic. However, Leda expressed a concern about securing a caddy for the Swiss Teams. It was unclear if Louise had already made arrangements for one, but the Board authorized Leda to follow up with last year's caddy in Louise's stead. Charles noted that the flyers for the tournament had been distributed to all the clubs.
  - B. The Annual Meeting. Bill Ringbom noted that all the arrangements had been made for the meeting to take place on January 20 at the Morro Bay Bridge Club. He reaffirmed that the game would be a Unit Championship game with added master point awards, that the table fees would go to the Morro Bay Club, and that the Unit would fund \$50 for refreshments just as if it were a Unit Game. The Unit has a complete slate of candidates for the 5 vacant positions on the Executive Board for the election which will take place at the event. Pat advised she had her yearly treasurer's report ready for presentation and Charles affirmed he had the meeting minutes from the 2015 Annual Meeting ready to be read and approved by the membership.

5. New Business

A. Proposed By-Laws amendments or addition of regulations required by the ACBL. Bill Ringbom briefly discussed Fred's concern that several of our By-Laws needed to be updated to be in compliance with ACBL requirements. Our last update was in 1999. Bill postponed further discussion until the February meeting and Fred's return.

B. Torre led a brief discussion on the transition of the Secretary and Electronic Contact positions from Charles to his successor(s), expressing concern that the class instructors continue to receive all the ACBL reports. The Board agreed that upon petition to the Board the authorized list of recipients could be expanded to include individuals not currently on the Board.

C. Leda and Torre briefed the Board on the ongoing status of the new beginner's classes which started January 12. Leda advised that a total of 17 people were attending, either for all or part of the series. Thirteen of the attendees were new to duplicate bridge and only 1 is currently an ACBL member. This is exactly the group the Board intended that we reach out to and the two instructors were thanked for their efforts.

6. Club Activity Reports. San Luis Obispo—Bill Ringbom advised that the Club would hold a Swiss teams event on February 5. Morro Bay—Bill Woodson advised that new board elections would take place in March. Paso Robles and 5 Cities—No updates.

7. Adjourn to meeting of February 12, 2016. Bill Ringbom adjourned the meeting at 12:17 PM, advising that our next meeting would be on that date at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Davis, Unit 540 Secretary

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Unit 540 Executive Board  
February 12, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM by President Fred Strong, who distributed copies of the meeting Agenda. Present were current Board members Bob Karriker, Bill Ringbom, Bud Zeuschner, Pat Hallock, Charles Davis, Bill Woodson, and Louise Abbott. Also in attendance were newly elected board members Leda Fields, Judy Obermeier and Jan Zinner .

Guests Gina Kirk and Gail Lapins also attended for part of the meeting to address the Board.

1. Review and Approval of the January minutes. Charles distributed copies to all board members, noting that certain minor changes had been proposed since the draft copy of the minutes were sent out. After a brief discussion the minutes were approved as amended.
2. Treasurer's Report. Pat distributed copies of January's treasurer's report. The Unit began the month with an initial balance of \$10,760.26. Due to the lack of a Unit Game for the month of January, the unit had no income for the month, but did show certain expenses listed in the report. There was discussion regarding certain items:
  - A. Open Larry Cohen account -- \$100.00 – it was noted that this was a 'seeding' expense, which will be reimbursed in full from funds gathered in support of the Larry Cohen Seminar to be held in May.
  - B. Refund for L. C. Seminar -- \$15.00 – explanation that this was to reimburse a participant for over-payment of the fee to attend the Cohen Seminar; this amount is also to be reimbursed to the Unit as funds are made available.

Treasurer Pat Hallock also advised the Board that a separate account to hold money collected for the Larry Cohen seminar was being deposited in a separate account, and that bank statements would be sent to the Unit's Post Office Box along with the regular statements.

After discussion, the report was approved by the Board.

3. Old Business
  - A. Update on 2016 Sectional. Louise Abbott discussed on-going preparations:
    1. Access to the Elks Club to set up tables and chairs for Friday's game should be accomplished for the most part by Thursday evening. The Elks requested a 4:00 PM start time, but it was noted that there are games in North County and 5 Cities on Thursday which cannot provide either equipment or assistance until about 5:00 PM.
    2. The Elks will again provide beverages—coffee, tea and iced tea.

3. Leda advised that a caddy for the Swiss Teams game had been secured.
4. Providing of snacks for the 3-day event was addressed. Heidi Karriker has agreed to work with Louise to purchase and prepare the food each day (possibly with the assistance of one or two others).
5. It was noted that transportation of tables and equipment was to be done by persons from Morro Bay (Torre Houlgate-West or Bill Woodson) and from 5 Cities (Leda Fields), with BridgeMates and bidding boxes to be supplied by Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo and 5 Cities clubs, with additional supplies available from the Black Lake club, if needed. North County and SLO clubs will provide time clocks. Bill Ringbom will provide table placards; Charles will provide Louise with a list of proposed beverages to be purchased for resale; the Elks Club will again provide coolers for our use. Fred reported that he has secured seven bottles of wine from members and expects to be able to get the balance needed before the Sectional.
6. Louise also reported that fees for use of the Elks Club facilities and for providing the beverages have been increased by an extra \$50/day for the rental and to a total of \$50 for beverages for the full 3 days.

C. Proposed amendments to Unit By-Laws or addition of regulations required by ACBL. President Strong provided for all in attendance a copy of a segment of ACBL Rules and Regulations (Chapter 3 – Unit regulations) and remarked that ACBL requires that the duties of all Unit officers be specifically defined in the Unit By-Laws, which is not presently the case. The unit approved an ad hoc committee of Charles Davis and Bill Ringbom to propose the best way to address the issue. Fred suggested that Unit By-Laws be amended by incorporating verbatim the job descriptions from the ACBL handbook. The committee should report at the March meeting.

D. Report on progress for the Larry Cohen Seminar. Gail Lapins reported that, to date, 37 persons were enrolled to attend. Gail also reported on the extensive marketing efforts being made by her and Gary Yant, including a table at the Unit Sectional in February and at neighboring sectionals which take during the spring. An extensive e-mail campaign has been mounted to notify all bridge units within about 125 miles of San Luis Obispo, and further publicity in local print outlets and on public radio and television is planned. The goal is to reach 1000-1500 persons, with an anticipated registration rate of 1%

#### 4.. New Business.

A. Election Report. Charles began the installation of the new board members by handing out copies of the minutes from the Annual Meeting held 1/19/2016 in Morro Bay. After brief discussion of events, the Draft of Minutes of the Annual Meeting, to be approved at the next annual meeting in January, 2017, was approved for posting on the Unit website for further public comment. Until that time.

- B. Election of Officers. Charles' minutes covered the election of new officers at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Former board members Bill Ringbom, Charles Davis and Torre Houlgate-West chose not to continue on the board, and new members Judy Obemeier, Jan Zinner and Leda Fields were elected, and continuing members Fred Strong and Bob Karriker were re-elected to 2-year terms. These 5 joint continuing members Bill Woodson, Louise Abbott, Pat Hallock and Bud Zeuschner to form the Unit Board for 2016.
- C. Appointments to Positions and Chairs. Fred led a discussion regarding the changes to the Board which would be required with the departure of the 3 members named above. After discussion, the following appointments for 2016 were confirmed by unanimous vote: President—Fred Strong; Vice-President—Bill Woodson; Treasurer—Pat Hallock; Secretary—Bob Karriker; ACBL Electronic Contact person—Bud Zeuschner; Disciplinary Committee Chair—Bill Ringbom; Education Chair—Leda Fields; Tournament Chair—Louise Abbott. Fred noted for the record that Chairpersons did not necessarily need to be Board members, thereby providing the basis for Bill Ringbom to chair his committee.
- D. Anything Else for the Good of the Organization.
- a. Fred Strong led a discussion regarding a zero tolerance complaint recently received. Fred noted that he immediately contacted the ACBL Office of Directors regarding the issue raised, and advised the Board that after consultation, it was decided that the matter is not a zero tolerance issue, but a situation to be handled by director at the club.
  - b. Fred noted that Marvin Segar had successfully completed requirements for Director and had requested reimbursement of fees Mr. Segar paid for materials used to prepare for the test. Under existing Unit policy, the request was approved without discussion.
  - c. Gina Kirk addressed the Board regarding continuation of the Unit policy for partial reimbursement for capital expenses. The new board voted to continue the policy after brief discussion. Bill Woodson advised he would be submitting requests for reimbursement for recent purchases by Morro Bay Club.
5. Club Activity Reports were tabled until the March meeting due to lack of time.
6. Fred adjourned the meeting at 12:29 PM, to the meeting March 11, 2016 @ 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Karriker, Unit 540 Secretary

6. Club Activity Reports. San Luis Obispo—Bill Ringbom advised that the Club would hold a Swiss teams event on February 5. Morro Bay—Bill Woodson advised that new board elections would take place in March. Paso Robles and 5 Cities—No updates.
7. Adjourn to meeting of February 12, 2016. Fred adjourned the meeting at 12:17 PM, advising that our next meeting would be on that date at 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Davis, Unit 540 Secretary

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Unit 540 Executive Board  
March 11, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM by President Fred Strong, who distributed copies of the meeting Agenda. Present were current Board members Bob Karriker, Bud Zeuschner, Pat Hallock, Bill Woodson, Louise Abbott, Judy Obermeier and Jan Zinner . Leda Fields arrived after the meeting had opened.

Guests Gina Kirk and Gail Lapins attended for part of the meeting to address the Board.

1. Review and Approval of the February minutes. Bob distributed copies to all board members, noting that certain minor changes had been proposed since the draft copy of the minutes were sent out. After a brief discussion the minutes were approved as amended.
2. Treasurer's Report. Pat Hallock informed the Board that no Treasurer's Report had been prepared because she did not have all necessary data available at hand to reflect the results of the Unit 540 Sectional in February. A combined report reflecting status of accounts for the period 2/1/16 through 3/31/16 is to be supplied at the next Board meeting on April 8, 2016.
3. Old Business
  - A. Update on 2016 Sectional. Louise Abbott made post-event comments about the positive aspects of the tournament (numerous, specifically mentioning the food service provided by Heidi and Bob Karriker). Bob also acknowledged the tremendous effort made by Louise on setting up the tournament and keeping it running smoothly.

Louise noted for the future that it would be appropriate for Board members attending tournament sessions take initiative to straighten up tables, pick up litter in the hall and any other 'housekeeping' chores which may present themselves.

The Elks Club agreed to make the venue available for the dates 2/24/17 through 2/27/17 for the next Unit tournament. The Elks will again provide beverages—coffee, tea and iced tea.

Providing of snacks for the 3-day event was addressed. The Board agreed to ask Heidi Karriker to provide food for the next tournament, with the possible assistance of Gina Kirk and other volunteers, as well as to inquire as to whether Heidi would be willing to take on the duty of supplying food for the monthly Unit games in the future.
  - B. Proposed amendments to Unit By-Laws or addition of regulations required by ACBL. Neither Charles Davis nor Bill Ringbom, members of the ad hoc committee nominated by the board, were in attendance. Further discussion of the issues was tabled until the April meeting.
  - C. Report on progress for the Larry Cohen Seminar. Gail Lapins reported that, to date, 60 persons were enrolled to attend. Gail also reported on the continuing marketing efforts being made by her and Gary Yant. The e-mail campaign is ongoing, and Gail and Gary also plan to attend the numerous sectional events in the area to continue the ad campaign in an effort to maximize outreach. A total of 68 participants is considered to be the 'break-even' point. Gail noted that word of the shirts and banner the marketing team has developed had found its way to Larry Cohen, who contacted them for permission to include photos of them for his own website
  - D. Report on Appeals Hearing. Bud Zeuschner traveled to Reno, Nevada, to attend the appeals hearing on a local disciplinary matter. At the 10-minute hearing, it was determined that, due to numerous procedural errors on the part of both the Unit 540 Board and the ACBL offices, the matter should either be resubmitted to the disciplinary panel after assiduously following all mandated protocols, or abandoned.

Chairman Strong suggested that the matter be dropped, and no further action be pursued until such time as a similar situation arises requiring Unit committee action.



In subsequent commentary, individual Board members discussed possible approaches to avoiding similar situations in the future requiring disciplinary action.

A further discussion ensued regarding how to run the monthly Unit Games in the future. A motion was made and seconded to approach the San Luis Obispo Duplicate Bridge Club regarding the games which are held at the City of San Luis Obispo's facility under its sponsorship. A number of procedural changes may be considered under the enabling motion with the matter being brought back to the Unit Board in April.

4. New Business.

- A. New Proposal for Director Compensation. Leda Fields offered for consideration a proposal that new directors be offered a \$500 stipend at the completion of their certification. Payment would be conditioned on a) the successful conclusion of a mentorship of at least 4 sessions (without pay) with an experienced director and b) an agreement to direct at least twice a month, with pay, at various clubs, where needed, for one calendar year. Discussion by board members resulted in a limit of 4 new directors to be offered this stipend in calendar year 2016.

After discussion, the proposal was moved, seconded and approved unanimously by the Board.

- B. Gina Kirk offered her assistance in two areas – working with providing food for various events and taking responsibility for maintaining the Membership list for the Unit. Current caretaker Louise Abbott gleefully relinquished this duty to Ms. Kirk.

5. Anything else for the good of the club.

- A. Jan Zinner sought permission from the Board to request a sanction for a Tuesday day game to be held in Nipomo (South County). Inasmuch as this game would not likely be in competition with the game currently held by Morro Bay DBC, members were mostly in agreement with the proposal. A motion to this effect was made by Leda Fields. The motion was seconded, and the vote was 7-1 (Bill Woodson, Morro Bay, objecting), with one abstention (Bob Karriker – also with ties to Morro Bay DBC).
- B. Status of the Santa Maria Unit 543 and Santa Maria DBC. Fred noted a comment by District 22 Secretary Jim Parks that it may be necessary to either disband the Santa Maria unit or merge it with another club in Unit 540 due to insufficient membership. The officers of the Santa Maria club had requested an exception from District 22 so as not to be required to hold an annual Sectional tournament.

One possible suggestion offered by Fred would be to approach the Santa Maria **Unit** with the idea of holding a joint sectional with Unit 540.

Jan Zinner noted that the ‘sticking point’ for any such permanent merger or dissolution **of the unit** is, and will remain, a fund of approximately \$18,000, in their treasury, and how to properly distribute this money in the event of a change in status.

6. Fred adjourned the meeting at 12:29 PM, to the meeting April 8, 2016 @ 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bob Karriker*

Bob Karriker, Unit 540 Secretary

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Unit 540 Executive Board  
April 8, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 11:30 AM by Vice President Bill Woodson, who distributed copies of the meeting Agenda. Also present were current Board members Bob Karriker, Bud Zeuschner, Pat Hallock, Leda Fields, Louise Abbott, and Judy Obermeier. Members Jan Zinner and Fred Strong were absent

Guest Gail Lapins attended for part of the meeting to address the Board.

1. Review and Approval of the March minutes. Bob distributed copies to all board members, which were approved.
2. Treasurer's Report. Pat Hallock presented reports for February and March, reflecting status of accounts after the successful sectional tournament. Balances on hand reported as Checking--\$8,891.87 & Savings--\$3,377.64, a combined total of \$12,269.51.
3. Old Business
  - A. Report on progress for the Larry Cohen Seminar. Gail Lapins reported that, now 66 persons were enrolled to attend. Gail also indicated the Seminar organizers intent to distribute 'prizes' such as tote bags to all participants and inquired whether the Board would be willing to provide \$200 for such gifts in the event the Seminar doesn't generate additional revenues to cover this cost. The Board agreed, and passed a motion to this effect.
    - B. Again, discussion regarding how to run the monthly Unit Games in the future was tabled.
4. New Business.
  - A. Discussion of ACBL memorandum to club managers and volunteers clarifying the Cooperative Advertising Program: 1) ACBL will make partial reimbursement of up to, but no more than, 50% of advertising costs, and 2) the maximum amount that can be received per 'campaign' is \$500.

Funds so reimbursed can be applied to expenses for advertising bridge lessons, newcomer programs, social bridge recruitment events and ACBL member recruitment.
  - B. Brief discussion of a series of e-mail comments regarding 'mentoring at the table' and the possible misinterpretation of 'zero tolerance' policies during club games ensued. The general conclusion – managers and directors should make clear to players the need to distinguish between brief positive, mentoring discussion and hectoring comments which distract or disturb other players.
  - C. For the Good of the Organization –
    1. Noted (with no specifics provided) that the 5 Cities club is planning to hold a Swiss teams event during the coming month.
    2. Reported that District 22 is considering establishing a 'Seniors Regional Tournament' to be held in San Luis Obispo in the future.
5. The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 PM, to the meeting May 13, 2016 @ 11:30 AM (caveat populae!).

Respectfully submitted,

*Bob Karriker*

Bob Karriker, Unit 540 Secretary

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Unit 540 Executive Board  
May 13, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 11:37 AM by President Fred Strong, who distributed copies of the meeting Agenda. Also present were current Board members Bob Karriker, Bill Woodson, Pat Hallock, Louise Abbott, Judy Obermeier and Jan Zinner; Leda Fields arrived late, and Bud Zeuschner was not in attendance.

1. Review and Approval of the April minutes. Bob distributed copies to all present members, which were approved.
2. Treasurer's Report. Pat Hallock presented reports for April and separate report on the income and expenses from the 2016 Central Coast Sectional, reflecting balances on hand: Checking--\$8,880.39 & Savings--\$3,377.90, a combined total of \$12,258.29 on hand. The report on the 2016 Central Coast Sectional showed a net profit of \$1,438.00 to the Unit. After some clarifying comments from Pat and discussion, the report was approved.
3. Old Business
  - A. Report on the Larry Cohen Seminar – nothing presented.
  - B. Information regarding advance preparations for the 2017 Central Coast Sectional – Louise Abbott reported on her discussions with the Elks Club management. They are pleased to host our next Sectional, but are unwilling to write up a contract containing specific commitments at this time. By consensus, the Board agreed to pay a \$200 'down payment' to the Elks Club to hold the date.
4. New Business.
  - A. Continuing discussion of Unit 540 hosting a "Senior Regional" tournament. Comments on different aspects of our commitment were made by various members, and it was agreed that Jim Parks, our representative on the District 22 Board, should continue research into what specific requirements we would have to meet to host such an event.

It was noted that ACBL requires an approximate 4-year lead time to certify any regional tournament.
  - B. Brief discussion of a proposal (by Bill Ringbom) that the Unit offer to purchase the 2 dealing machines owned by clubs within Unit 540.

Leda Fields made a motion for the Board to extend an offer to the clubs to have the Unit purchase the units for \$2,000.00 per machine, with utilization to proceed under the same terms and conditions as are now in effect. The motion was seconded by Bill Woodson.

After discussion by Louise Abbott, who questioned the need to undertake this organizational change, and comment by Fred Strong that it would facilitate coordination of the scheduled machine maintenance, and would make available some of the cash on hand in the Unit accounts, the motion passed unanimously.

Secretary Bob Karriker was charged with drafting the letter offer to be presented to the individual clubs.
5. For the Good of the Organization – nothing new presented
6. Club activity reports.
  - A. Morro Bay announced its annual Pro-Am game in honor of George Sheffield, to be held Wednesday, May 25, and the initiation of a new policy in support of its Wednesday games – anybody may come to play and be guaranteed a partner.
  - B. 5 Cities noted the resignation of Torre Houlgate-West as bridge instructor, with Leda Fields assuming this role for the club.

C. North County (Paso Robles) noted on-going beginning bridge lessons being held in private homes to encourage party bridge players to try their hand at duplicate bridge.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 12:14 PM, to the meeting June 10, 2016 @ 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bob Karriker*

Bob Karriker, Unit 540 Secretary

Minutes of the  
ACBL Unit 540 Board  
Friday June 10, 2016 – SLO Senior Center

- I. **Meeting called to order** by President Fred Strong, 11:40 am
  - a. Attending: Louise Abbott, Leda Fields, Pat Hallock, Bob Karriker, Fred Strong, Bill Woodson, and Bud Zeuschner. Guests: Gail Lapins, Gary Yant
- II. **Minutes of May 13, 2016. M/S/P to accept as presented.**
- III. **Treasurer's Report** (Hallock)
  - a. April Report: Income - \$735. Expenses - \$573.52. Balance: \$12, 843.29
  - b. May Report: Income - \$15,486.84, Expenses - \$16, 955.60, Balance - \$11,374.53. (Expect revision reflecting final figures for Cohen Seminar.) **M/S/P to accept the Treasurer's Reports.**
- IV. **Old Business**
  - a. Dealing Machine Offers (Strong). Morro Bay accepted Unit offer of \$2000 for machine to use as back up. **M/S/P to Approve.** (SLO Club declined the offer to purchase its machine.)
  - b. Unit Games and Sanctions (Abbott/Strong). Abbott sent sanction numbers and schedule to all managers of Unit clubs. Paso Robles plans to use its Sept. 5 sanction to hold two sections at different sites simultaneously. Louise engaged in Q&A regarding the ACBL Sanction process. (No Action Required).
- V. **New Business**
  - a. Teaching/Mentoring. Appreciation expressed to Gail Lapins for coordinating Pro/Am Game in Morro Bay. Board encourages other clubs to experiment with this format. Leda Fields reported lessons developing at the Nipomo club and encouraged a "free play" be extended to newer players completing lessons to be used at any club (one time each) in the Unit for six months following the lessons. There was general support for this suggestion. Fred Strong reported good response to lessons in Paso Robles with 8 new players joining the games as a result. Leda again mentioned the positive reports she had from the Morro Bay Pro/Am.
  - b. Other: Gary Yant filed a report on the Larry Cohen Seminar (attached) and will work with Pat Hallock for reconciliation of the final totals. Some discussion ensued about refunds, and the need for clear delineation of duties and expectations between the Treasurer and event coordinators. Gail Lapins also provided information about advertising and outreach efforts, noting only two "out of area" participants. The group brainstormed ideas for increasing out of area participation, including the idea of hosting those persons in our homes for seminar days. The Board expressed appreciation to Gary and Gail and all who helped, and supported the idea of making this an annual event. Gary is not available to be the coordinator again, but will approach possible interested persons.
- VI. **Club Activity Reports**
  - a. Leda Fields announced a "Mary and Bob Neal Appreciation Game" to recognize their hard work and excellent contributions to Bridge in our area.
  - b. MB repeated its appreciation for the Pro/Am game last month.
- VII. **Adjourn: M/S/P to cancel the July Meeting and adjourn to August 13.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bud Zeuschner  
(Sub. For Bob Karriker, delayed in arriving)

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
Unit 540 Executive Board  
August 12, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 11:33 AM by President Fred Strong, who distributed copies of the meeting Agenda. Also present were current Board members Bob Karriker, Bill Woodson, Pat Hallock, Louise Abbott, Judy Obermeier, Jan Zinner, Leda Fields and Bud Zeuschner.

1. Review and Approval of the June minutes. Bud Zeuschner, who compiled the minutes of the meeting, distributed copies to all present members; move for approval by Bob Karriker, seconded by Bill Woodson. The minutes were approved.
2. Treasurer's Report. Pat Hallock presented reports for June and July as follows: initial Balances on hand were as follows: Checking -- \$8,002.63, Savings -- \$3,370.90 (Total assets: \$11,380.53). After total expenditures in June of \$2,1103.82, including \$2,000.00 for acquisition of the Morro Bay dealing machine, and July expenses of \$205.08, and income totaling \$330.00, (plus \$0.25 interest!), balances on hand are: Checking--\$6,023.73 & Savings--\$3,378.15, a combined total of \$9,401.88. Move to approve the report by Jan Zinner, seconded by Bud Zeuschner; the report was approved.
3. Old Business
  - A. Education matters. Leda Fields noted that she is giving introductory lessons for a group ranging in size from 12-15 persons on Sunday evenings. She intends to award those completing the program with a certificate for 1 free play at all clubs agreeing to this gratuity. She noted that all of the clubs in Unit (with the exception of Paso Robles DBC, which has not met since the offer was made) have agreed to accept this 'chit.' She also suggested that the Board agree to extend the free play for a single unit game. This proposal was agreed to by acclamation.
  - B. Pre-planning for the 2017 Central Coast Sectional – The deposit of \$200 to reserve the Elks Club facilities for the tournament dates was presented and accepted.
4. New Business.
  - A. Easy Bridge program funding request. Gina Kirk proposed that the Unit request a sanction from ACBL for a new game to provide a base for new players who join a program of Easy Bridge instruction under the auspices of Jim Solomon, instructor and director. Kirk is requesting that the Unit cover 25% of the advertising costs of the program, with ACBL providing 50% under its CAP Program, and the Black Lake club (Nipomo) covering the remaining 25%.

The lessons will take place in the afternoons, and are to be held at the Pismo Beach Veterans Hall. The City of Pismo Beach is also supporting the proposal, and will actively promote the program through its official notice of scheduled events for the Fall, 2016.

eda fields submitted a written application for the Board to consider reimbursement of expenses associated with certification of Tom Snow as an ACBL Director.

After lengthy discussion, ~~during which it was noted that official Unit procedure for requesting reimbursement of costs to study and take the ACBL Directors Exam must be made to the Board in writing prior to the applicant sitting for the exam,~~ Louise Abbott moved that the Board vote to support the proposals for an amount up to \$4500.00 ~~and to provide \$12.50 toward Mr. Snow's costs to become Easy Bridge certified.~~

During discussion of the motion, the language was amended to request support for costs up to \$150.00, ~~and toward the \$12.50 Easy Bridge fees.~~ The motion was seconded and approved.

- B. New Director request. See note in A., above.
- C. Updating Unit web site. No information provided
- D. Club Activities.
  - 1) San Luis Obispo – reported on a successful game to honor member Richard Stacy.

- 2) Morro Bay – noted the termination of their Wednesday games after the game on 8/31/16.
- 3) Paso Robles – noted a donation in the amount of \$850.00 to Senior Services of San Luis Obispo County.

E. There was an *ad hoc* motion by Leda Fields that those persons who have advanced to a new status within the ACBL hierarchy during the past calendar year be acknowledged at the Unit's Annual Meeting in January, and that the awards for Mini-McKinney and Ace of Clubs winners be announced at the Unit Game on the second Saturday of February. The motion was seconded by Pat Hallock and approved by the Board.

F. The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 PM, to the meeting September 9, 2016 @ 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bob Karriker*

Bob Karriker, Unit 540 Secretary

Minutes of the  
ACBL Unit 540 Board  
Friday, September 9, 2016 – SLO Senior Center

- I. **Meeting called to order** by President Fred Strong, 11:30 am— Members present—Bob Karriker, Bud Zeuschner, Jan Zinner, Pat Hallock, Leda Fields and Louise Abbott. Members Bill Woodson and Judy Obermeier were absent.
- II. **Minutes of August 12, 2016. M/S/P to accept, as amended.**
- III. **Treasurer's Report** (Hallock)
  - a. July Report: Income - \$180.00. Expenses - \$205.09. Balance: \$9,401.88 (amended to add \$0.25 interest credited)—New Balance -- \$9,402.13
  - b. August Report: Income - \$220.00, Expenses - \$544.48, Balance - \$9,077.65) **M/S/P to accept the Treasurer's Reports, as amended.**
- IV. **Old Business**
  - a. **Discussion of "Fall Fling" to be held 11/12/16 prior to Unit Game.** Leda Fields will Coordinate, with assistance from Bud Zeuschner and Jan Zinner. **No action required.**
  - b. **Confirmation of January Recognition Program.** It was suggested that a booklet naming all members who have advanced their standing with ACBL be drawn up and passed out at the first Unit Game on 1/14/2017, and a second booklet identifying the winners of the Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKinney Awards be prepared, to be distributed at the unit game in February.
  - c. **(added from the floor) The need for a nominating committee to advance list of candidates to replace board members whose term is to expire at the end of 2016.** Those Board members whose terms are to expire are as follows: Bud Zeuschner, Pat Hallock, Bill Woodson and Louise Abbott.
- V. **New Business**
  - a. Need to find a replacement for Torre Houlgate-West to serve as corresponding member to provide monthly San Luis Obispo news column for inclusion in District 22 Contract Bridge Forum. Several names were advanced: Jean Larden, Lynn Crawford, Pat Avotins, Sharon Murphy.
  - b. **Possible Unit Strategies to increase membership.** Fred noted that ACBL identifies several possible activities in their Directors' Guide and Handbook for Membership Chairmen (available on line). The need for a Membership Committee was noted. A detailed discussion was to be included in the agenda for the October 14 meeting.
- VI. **Club Activity Reports**
  - a. SLO club requested an additional Unit Championship game be allotted in light of the cancellation of the Wednesday PM game in Morro Bay.
  - b. Black Lake club requested authorization for reimbursement of 50% of cost to acquire Bridge Mate equipment and 12 table units. M/S/P to extend existing policy to cover this request.
- VII. **Adjourn: M/S/P to adjourn to October 14, 2016.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Karriker--Secretary



## Minutes

Unit 540 Board Meeting – October 14, 2016

- I. **Meeting Called to Order** at 11:35 AM by President Fred Strong. Present: Fred Strong, Bill Woodson, Leda Fields, Judy Obermeier, Pat Hallock, Louise Abbott, Bud Zeuschner. Guest: Carol Raimondo.
- II. **Minutes of September Meeting. M/S/P to approve** the September minutes as presented.
- III. **Treasurer's Report:** Pat Hallock reported we took in \$200 for the month of September and spent \$381, leaving a balance of \$8, 896.18. (See report). **M/S/P to Approve** the Treasurer's Report as presented.
- IV. **Old Business**
  - a. Larry Cohen Seminar – 2018. Carol Raimondo presented information on hosting Larry Cohen again May 17-18, 2018. Several suggestions were presented about venues and advertising. Carol volunteered to coordinate this event. **M/S/P that the Unit Sponsor of this event and agree to underwrite the costs up to \$2000.**
  - b. Fall Fling. Leda Fields reported the Fall Fling will be held on Saturday, November 12, with Unit providing lunch, beginning at 11:30 AM. Bill Woodson and Louise Abbott agreed to help set up beginning at 10:45.
  - c. Unit Reporter –*Bridge Forum*: Gina Kirk has volunteered to be the reporter for our Unit. **M/S/P to appoint Gina Kirk as Unit Reporter.**
- V. **New Business**
  - a. Short Game in SLO Wednesday Night once a month. Board concurred.
  - b. SLO Senior Center Storage: The SLO Sr. Center has agreed to allow the Unit to use shelving in the storeroom for supplies and materials. The Board supported the idea of having the Unit President designate a Unit Game during the year naming the SLO Sr. Center as the charity.
  - c. Barbara Hardin Lessons. **M/S/P to approve series of 2/1 lessons from Barbara Hardin in Morro Bay, allocating \$300 for first 6 classes, an additional \$300 @\$50 a class as long as there are 2 tables of new players, and up to \$200 in matching funds for advertisement.**
  - d. Louise Abbott distributed flyers for the Sectional Feb. 24-26, 2017.
- VI. **Club Reports:** PR will have two special games in November. SLO will have a holiday party on December 3 (lunch), 5 Cities on Dec. 8, and PR on Dec. 15 (potluck).
- VII. **Meeting Adjourned at 11:10** – Next meeting Friday, November 11, at which time we will appoint a nominating committee. (4 vacancies.)

Respectfully Submitted,

Bud Zeuschner, *Amanuensis pro tempore.*

## Minutes

Unit 540 Board Meeting – November 12, 2016

- I. **Meeting Called to Order** at 11:31 AM by President Fred Strong. Present: Fred Strong, Jan Zinner, Leda Fields, Bob Karriker, Pat Hallock, Louise Abbott, Bud Zeuschner. Guest: Jim Parks.
- II. **Minutes of October Meeting. M/S/P to approve** the as presented.
- III. **Treasurer's Report:** Balance forward 10/1/16 -- \$8896.18 (TOTAL – 2 accounts) – Income -- \$140.00; Expenses -- \$270.78.  
Balance on hand 10/31/16 -- \$8765.40 (Checking - \$5387.00; Savings - \$3378.40)  
**M/S/P to Approve** the Treasurer's Report as presented.
- IV. **Old Business – Concepts for building Membership.** Jim Parks initiated a discussion of ideas, some originating with the District Board, for building membership in the unit clubs and increasing membership in ACBL. Jan Zinner addressed the need for strategies to broaden the demographic appeal for duplicate bridge players, to attract younger players and players who are normally at work during the time of the afternoon games as now scheduled.  
  
Board members also discussed the ways attendance might be improved by reaching out to religious and professional groups with a short presentation on attractions and benefits of duplicate bridge.  
  
A brief set of points for presentation to groups of interest is to be made available at the December meeting.
- V. **New Business**
  - a. Wednesday Night Short Game in SLO – first game to be 12/7/16, following Chanukah meal.
  - b. SLO Senior Center will be closed from 12/16/16 through the end of the year. The Friday games are to be shifted to Morro Bay DBC @ St. Peters Church.
- VI. **Club activities.**—Holiday Games with special functions were announced by Morro Bay (12/2); 5 Cities DBC (12/8); Paso Robles DBC (12/15).
- VI. **Meeting Adjourned at 12:15** – Next meeting Friday, December 9.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Karriker, Unit 540 Secretary

## Minutes

Unit 540 Board Meeting – December 9, 2016

- I. **Meeting Called to Order** at 11:32 AM by President Fred Strong. Present: Fred Strong, Jan Zinner, Leda Fields, Bob Karriker, Louise Abbott, Judy Obermeier, Bill Woodson. Not in attendance: Pat Hallock, Bud Zeuschner
- II. **Minutes of November Meeting. M to approve Minutes as presented—Jan Zinner; S—Judy Obermeier: P.**
- III. **Treasurer's Report:** Balance forward 11/1/16 -- \$8,765.40 (TOTAL - 2 accounts) - Income -- \$260.00; Expenses -- \$701.19.  
Balance on hand 11/30/16 -- \$8,294.81 (Checking - \$4,945.81; Savings - \$3,378.40)  
**M to approve Treasurer's Report as present—Jan Zinner; S—Bill Woodson: P.**
- IV. **Old Business – Concepts for building Membership. Discussion tabled until January, 2017 meeting.**
- V. **New Business**
  - A. Election of new officers to replace 4 current board members who decline to serve again (Bud Zeuschner, Louise Abbott, Pat Hallock & Bill Woodson).  
  
The sitting members mentioned possible candidates Marcia Stillman, David Gillette, Gina Kirk and Gene Lardon. A nominating committee was appointed to provide other possible candidates—Jan Zinner, Leda Fields, Judy Obermeier and Bob Karriker.
  - B. News about status of preparations for 2017 Sectional tournament—no additional information presented.
  - C. Recruitment – see comment under IV. Old Business, above.
  - D. Notice of person in area subject to ACBL suspension of privileges—deferred until January, 2017 meeting.
  - E. Discussion of partial reimbursement of costs to Black Lake club to offset purchase of Bridgemate system – Moved to reimburse 50% of costs (total reimbursement of \$1,052.00) by Bud Zeuschner; Second by Bill Woodson: approved after discussion.
  - F. Discussion of providing supplies for active teachers, including sets of cards – no action taken.
  - G. Jan Zinner presented a draft of data to be used in annotating advancements in ranking. No further action taken.
- VI. **Club activities.**— Morro Bay held Friday afternoon games the last 2 Fridays in December in lieu of the SLO club (since SLO Senior Center facilities were closed); Morro Bay DBC held a special Holiday luncheon 12/2/16; 5 Cities DBC held theirs 12/8/16 & Paso Robles DBC held Pot Luck luncheon 12/15.
- VI. **Meeting Adjourned at 12:15** – Next meeting Friday, 1/13/2017..

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Karriker, Unit 540 Secretary