

I. The meeting was called to order by President Bud Zeuschner at 12:15 pm. Over 50 members of the unit were in attendance, clearly establishing a quorum.

II. Secretary Mike Hughes was absent, due to severe weather, so the minutes of the last meeting were not read, although they were previously distributed to the board.

III. Treasurer Gary Yant presented the treasurer's report. Highlights included increased spending on supplies, offset by increased revenue from the funds provided by the closure of the Morro Bay DBC. The report was approved by acclaim.

IV. The only item of business was the selection of the new Unit Board of Directors. Stacey Stack moved a motion to accept the following slate to the board:

Howard Gee, Rosemary Heath, Jack Luxton, Yoli Medina, Nancy Olivera, Brad Prior, and Linda Siefert.

Since there were no other nominations from the floor, the motion was seconded and approved by unopposed acclaim.

V. One announcement was given, reminding the members of the upcoming S L O Sectional Tournament, to be held Feb. 24, 25, and 26 at the Arroyo Grande Women's Club.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Gee, acting secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Bud Zeuschner at 3:46 pm. The primary agenda item was the selection of officers for the Unit Board of Directors.

II. The following slate of officers, based on prior discussion, was presented and approved by acclaim:

Linda Siefert	President
Brad Prior	Vice President
Howard Gee	Secretary
Gary Yant	Treasurer

The meeting was turned over to Linda Siefert.

III. The following additional unit positions were presented/assigned:

Rosemary Heath	Marketing
Jack Luxton	Ethics
Gail Lapins	Membership/Education
Raymond Zeuschner	Immediate Past President, non voting
John Fields, Jr.	Unit Director, non voting

Additional board members at Large:

Yoli Medina
Nancy Oliveira

Other positions:

Sectional tournament Co-Chairs: Gina Kirk and Deb Cameron

IV. A brief discussion of the February Sectional Tournament followed. Gina Kirk, with major assistance from others, with handle food and publicity activities. Deb Cameron, with assistance from many others,

will lead the onsite activities (tables, chairs, pre-dealt boards, ticketing, door prizes, etc. etc.). Board members will also be assisting as needed. Rosemary Heath will host, at her home, a food reception for the board members and tournament directors on Thursday evening, Feb. 23.

V. The Unit 540 Board of Directors will return to face to face, in person board meetings. The next meeting will be at 11:00 am on Friday, Feb. 10, 2023 in the SLO Senior Center meeting room.

At the next meeting, it will be determined which of the new board members will be serving a full 2 year term, and which will be fulfilling the remaining 1 year term for those who resigned from the board in previous months.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Gee, Secretary

- I. The meeting was called to order by President Linda Seifert at 11:31 am. Linda Seifert, Howard Gee, Nancy Olivera, Gail Lapins, and Jack Luxton were in attendance, with Gary Yant present via cell phone, establishing a quorum. Fred Strong, board member emeritus, was also present. The agenda was reviewed and accepted. The following list of term expirations of the current board was presented and distributed by Linda, and accepted by the members.

Linda Seifert, President	January, 2025
Brad Prior, Vice President	January, 2025
Howard Gee, Secretary	January, 2025
Gary Yant, Treasurer	January, 2024
Gail Lapins, Membership	January, 2024
Rosemary Heath, Marketing	January, 2024
Jack Luxton, Disciplinary Coord.	January, 2024
Nancy Oliveria, at large	January, 2025
Yoli Medina, at large	January, 2025
Bud Zeuschner, Immed. past President	January, 2025

- II. Secretary Howard Gee previously distributed the January special meeting minutes to the board. They were M/S/P as distributed. There was no regular meeting held in January.
- III. Linda had nothing further to report as president. After brief discussion, the next meeting will be at 11:00 am, rather than 11:30.
- IV. Treasurer Gary Yant presented the treasurer's report. Highlights included payment of many sectional tournament expenses, to be offset by player revenue at the tournament. The previously distributed financial statement from Gary was approved by acclaim. Discussion of raising the fee for the monthly unit game was next. It was M/S/P to increase the fee

- from \$7 to \$8 per person, effective at the March 11, 2023 unit game.
- V. Linda and others reported on the excellent progress in preparation for the upcoming S L O Sectional Tournament, to be held Feb. 24, 25, and 26 at the Arroyo Grande Women's Club. Rose Will is accepting cash donations as well for the food. Dave Elder and Ron Schwar will lead the effort of moving tables. Details are TBD for the welcome for our tournament director.
 - VI. Jack Luxton presented brief information about the necessity to change his board title to "disciplinary coordinator", rather than "ethics", to comply with ACBL standard requirements. This was M/S/P.
 - VII. Gail Lapins reported on the details of duties for the membership coordinator. This was greatly appreciated by all. It was M/S/P to accept this as the official unit guidelines for the position. The complete document is attached at the end of these minutes.
 - VIII. Howard Gee reported that a Notice of Decision from District 22 was received. Disciplinary action was taken, banning Bill Lietzow, ACBL member # K954516, from play for 6 months, and probation for an additional 2 years, and forfeiture of 10% of his masterpoints for ethical violations during BBO games. This notice will be distributed to all of our unit's clubs and directors.
 - IX. Discussion began concerning the policy of requiring COVID vaccinations of the players at unit games. Time constraints required us to table the issue until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Gee, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

When I became membership chair I asked Bud what the duties were and he said there aren't any just do whatever you want. I want to share what I am doing and with the approval of the board make these part of all future membership chair's responsibilities. By sending this ahead of the meeting the board will have time to review it and make any suggestions at the meeting. We have a full schedule for the meeting and this will save time.

When you have a revolving board there is a tendency for things to fall through the cracks. To avoid this from happening the below information, in great detail, with all the A.C.B.L. contacts information will be kept in a manila file and passed on the next membership chair.

The text below that is in red represents the motion I am making to the board. (Howard, I thought that would be the easiest way for you to add them to the minutes.)

MAKING SURE THE UNIT EMAIL LIST IS ALWAYS CURRENT

1. I contacted A.C. B. L. spoke to a lovely women who is in charge of generating list of members for the unit. Since our list is on Gmail by first name she did a list to my specifications by first name, last, address, email address , phone number and masterpoint total
2. I am working with Jim Borland to update our email list and keep it current. He has been very gracious in continuing to do this. I forwarded the list to him and he spent a considerable amount of time updating our list. He added 44 new members which brought our unit email list to 387
3. **EACH DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WOULD GENERATE THE SAME SPECIFIED LIST FROM A.C.B.L.** (explanation of why this is needed below)

IN AND OUT MONTHLY REPORT - MEMBERSHIP CHAIR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS SHOULD BE LISTED WITH A.C.B.L.TO RECEIVE REPORT A different person at A.C.B.L. handles this I spoke to her and I will be receiving this report monthly.

Among other things it shows:

ADVANCEMENT OF RANK – I believe strongly that recognition of achievement is paramount. The main reason that A.C.B.L. exists is that people are striving for the next higher rank. In the report it lists the rank advancement of our members.

1. **CONGRATULATION EMAIL WITH BALLOON HEADING SENT TO THE UNIT EMAIL LIST**
2. I subscribe to Jacquelyn Lawson animated cards so the unit doesn't have to pay for it but would for future membership chair. **FROM JACQUELYN LAWSON ANIMATED CARDS CONGRATULATION CARD SENT TO EACH INDIVIDUAL** *The email address is gotten from the list generated by A.C. B. L. That is why a yearly list from A.c.B.L. should be generated.
3. The clubs may want to do something beyond that and would be aware of the rank advancement from the Congratulation email sent to the unit

IN AND OUT REPORT

NEW ACBL MEMBERS AND MEMBER TRANSFERS AS WELL AS MEMBER DROP OUT

1. FORWARD THIS INFORMATION TO JIM BORLAND TO UPDATE OUR EMAIL LIST SO OUR LIST STAYS CURRENT
2. SEND A WELCOME EMAIL CARD TO NEW MEMBERS AND TRANSFER IN MEMBERS INCLUDE A LINK TO OUR WEBSITE
3. IN ADDITION FORWARD THE INFORMATION TO THE APPROPRIATE CLUB. The club may want to call them and offer them a free play etc.

COMMUNICATION WITH OUR CLUBS

FORWARD THE ABOVE INFORMATION OF WHAT THE UNIT IS DOING TO THE PRESIDENTS EACH YEAR AFTER ELECTIONS MAKE SURE THE NEW PRESIDENT IS AWARE OF WHAT THE UNIT IS DOING.

- I. The meeting was called to order by President Linda Seifert at 11:05 am. at the home of Rosemary Heath (senior center closed due to storm). Linda Seifert, Gary Yant, Howard Gee, Rosemary Heath, Gail Lapins, and Jack Luxton were in attendance (Bud Zeuschner joined at 11:15), with Yoli Medina and Fred Strong, board member emeritus, present via zoom, establishing a quorum. The agenda was reviewed and accepted.
- II. Secretary Howard Gee previously distributed the February meeting minutes to the board. They were M/S/P as distributed.
- III. Linda report that Jack's title was officially changed to Disciplinary Chair. Gail was officially appointed Education Chair. All special games for the Unit during the next 6 months have been sanctioned and approved by ACBL.
- IV. Discussion took place regarding the Longest Day and our unit's history of success (funds raised, wine auctioned, "pro" partnerships auctioned, etc.). General consensus was that we continue to participate in this worthy cause. Bud Zeuschner and Yoli Medina will expand this discussion with the clubs in our unit.
- V. Treasurer Gary Yant presented the treasurer's report. The sectional tournament profited a net of \$307. Final accounting, including funds from ACBL, will be included in the next treasurer's report. The previously distributed monthly P & L financial statement from Gary was approved by acclaim. Yoli stated that there may be some funds from the Santa Maria club, and Gary will discuss this with Bob Faust.
- VI. The Unit 540 Sectional Tournament issues were discussed. Rosemary Heath volunteered to be our next tournament

- director. She will create a team to assist in the various aspects of next year's sectional tournament, including dates, location, logistics, costs, etc. Various concerns included: fee collection, trash containers, posting results, organization, venues, lighting, tournament director(s), audibility, etc.
- VII. Rosemary discussed Unit name branding ("the 540"), communication, a comprehensive calendar, and the unit website. Jim Borland will be included in upcoming discussions aimed at site improvements. Rosemary is seeking further input from officers and members.
 - VIII. Jack reported on the general policies for the unit ethical standards. Zero Tolerance and director's prerogatives were considered. Jack is planning to present a document to each club, and to the unit later, of the detailed policies, following guidelines from ACBL.
 - IX. Jack moved and Gary seconded a motion to eliminate the unit policy of requiring COVID vaccinations of all players at our unit games. The motion passed unanimously.
 - X. Tom Snow has some teaching aids (slides/power point) to donate to the unit. Gail presented a binder to be filled with details of the policies and practices for the unit officers and members, to preserve and improve our institutional memory.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Gee, Secretary

- I. The meeting was called to order by President Linda Seifert at 4:53 pm. at the home of Rosemary Heath (meeting was rescheduled from Apr. 14 due to a lack of quorum). Linda Seifert, Gary Yant, Howard Gee, Rosemary Heath, Brad Prior, Jack Luxton, Gail Lapins, Yoli Medina, and Bud Zeuschner were in attendance, with Jim Borland and Dick Coulter present as guests, establishing a quorum. The agenda was reviewed and accepted.
- II. Secretary Howard Gee previously distributed the March meeting minutes to the board. They were approved M/S/P as distributed.
- III. Treasurer Gary Yant presented the treasurer's report. The current balance on hand is \$15,700. The report was M/S/P accepted as presented.
- IV. Rosemary has taken the lead on planning for the 2024 Unit 540 Sectional Tournament. The date of March 22-24, 2024 has been proposed, with approval pending from the national ACBL. Second choice dates are 3/29—31, and third choice is 3/15—17. She has a skilled team assisting in this planning effort.
- V. Gail presented information about a "Welcome Back To Bridge Week" concept, organized at the unit level for our clubs. This is an effort to increase attendance at live bridge in our clubs. Some additional costs per table will be incurred by the clubs participating in this effort. It was decided by consent to support this effort, with any extra costs per club in our unit to be covered by the unit 540 funds. This is to be from June 5—10, and we will showcase the week through the new branding of the unit.
- VI. The issue of unit "Branding" was discussed. Following a poll of officers and other discussion, it was M/S/P to accept "THE 540 BRIDGE CLUBS" as the brand, with "Friendly bridge on the

Central Coast” as the tag/motto. A graphic image/style will be developed, as a next step in the process. Rosemary will communicate to the clubs in our unit the impact and purpose of this effort.

- VII. The board discussed the merging of club mailing lists, communication policy, a comprehensive calendar, and the unit website. Jim Borland stated he has taken the current website as far as possible. Rosemary and Dick reported on their extensive exploration of options to upgrade and enhance the unit website. For \$10/month, Constant Contact can provide mailing list management services. The expenditure was M/S/P as acceptable. Moving forward, Dick Coulter will become manager for the unit website, and will merge all information from the current site into the new site, which will look mostly similar. It was M/S/P to approve the annual fee of £100 to BridgeWebs.com from Great Britain to host the new and improved website. The company provides this service for hundreds of clubs and units, with countless options for content, style, updates, etc. Rosemary and Dick will continue leading this project.
- VIII. Jack reported on the general Zero Tolerance policies and the unit ethical standards. Jack is planning to present a document to the unit later, of the detailed policies, following guidelines from ACBL.
- IX. Bud Zeuschner presented a progress report regarding the Longest Day. An account number with ACBL has been established for pledges and receipt of funds, wine donations are being collected along with dinner packages from local restaurants for raffle/drawing prizes, and “pro” partnerships will be auctioned in early June. Dates for longest day games at our clubs will be confirmed soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Gee, Secretary

- I. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Brad Prior at 11:03 am. at the SLO Senior Center conference room. Brad Prior, Gary Yant, Howard Gee, Rosemary Heath, Jack Luxton, Gail Lapins, and Nancy Oliver were in attendance, establishing a quorum. The agenda was reviewed and accepted. Brad stated there was no president's report this month.
- II. Secretary Howard Gee previously distributed the April meeting minutes to the board. They were approved M/S/P as distributed.
- III. Treasurer Gary Yant presented the treasurer's report. The current May 1, balance on hand is \$15,516. The report was M/S/P accepted as presented. Additionally, he stated that the income from the Unit 540 sectional was finally received from the national ACBL, so roughly \$2900 will be deposited in May. At this point, it seems Fred Strong will continue to purchase the unit supplies for our various games (cards, paper convention sheets, etc.).
- IV. Rosemary has taken the lead on planning for the 2024 Unit 540 Sectional Tournament. The date of March 22-24, 2024 has been proposed, with approval pending from the national ACBL. Second choice dates are 3/29—31, and third choice is 3/15—17. The president or secretary will need to change the listing with the national ACBL office of our sectional director from Deb Cameron, who has resigned, to Rosemary Heath, before the dates can become final. Rosemary also intends to explore the availability and cost of using the Ludwick Center in SLO for the tournament.
- V. The mailing list was the next topic discussed. Feedback from Constant Contact indicates a significant percentage of our emails, after being sent, are not being opened. A list of under 100 email addresses that bounced back was presented by

Rosemary. Nancy will lead an effort to correct the address errors, remove addresses of deceased players, etc.

- VI. Gail presented detailed information about the “Welcome Back To Bridge Week”, organized at the unit level for our clubs. This information was previously passed onto Rosemary, for integration with the new website. This is being coordinated with the clubs in an effort to increase attendance at live bridge in our unit. All additional costs per table incurred by the clubs participating in this effort will be covered by the unit 540 funds. This is to be from June 5—10, and we will showcase the week during the rollout of the new Unit 540 website.
- VII. The website is essentially ready to function. A graphic image/style is to be decided, as a next step in the process. Rosemary will communicate to the clubs in our unit the impact and purpose of this branding effort. Gary and Rosemary will coordinate the invoicing for the cost of the site and mailing list. Dick Coulter is now manager for the unit website, and will merge all information from the current site into the new site.
- VIII. Rosemary had formatted the information about Welcome Back to Bridge Week into colors, the calendar, etc. Gayle had some issues with the adjustments from her original information approach. The board discussed at length the authorization process for utilizing mailing lists, the need for a communication policy, a comprehensive calendar, and the unit website. The topic of communication policy was tabled until the next meeting.
- IX. Jack presented two detailed documents: Zero Tolerance Disciplinary Policy and Procedure and Ethics Policy and Procedures, following guidelines from ACBL. Jack is planning to present similar documents to the clubs for approval. It was M/S/P for the unit to accept and adopt these policies immediately.

- X. Bud Zeuschner, via email, presented a letter regarding the Longest Day, as a tool to present the event to potential donors of meals, wine, etc.
- XI. Gary noted that the unit doesn't not have a partnership person, for players seeking a partner at the monthly unit games. A tab on the new website should be available, for that purpose and other unit inquiries, with an automatic forward link to whoever is found for the partnership task. Board members will seek an appropriate and willing person for the role.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Gee, Secretary

Minutes
The 540 Bridge Clubs
Unit Board Meeting
9 June 2023

- I. Meeting called to order at 11:AM by President Linda Seifert. Present: Brad Prior, Nancy Oliveira, Jack Luxton, Yoli Medina, Rosemary Heath, Gary Yant, Bud Zeuschner. Guests: Dick Coulter and Tom Snow.
- II. There were no additions to the Agenda
- III. Minutes, May 12 Meeting: There being no corrections or additions, **M/S/P to approve the May 12 minutes as presented, with appreciation to Howard Gee.**
- IV. Reports
 - A. President
 1. Website update. Linda expressed appreciation to Dick Coulter for all his work on updating the website. **M/S/P to present Dick with a \$100 gift card to Luna Red in recognition of this terrific accomplishment.**
 2. Board Vacancy/Recruitment. Tom Snow was invited to join the Board to fill the vacancy left by Gail Lapins resignation, and he indicated enthusiastic interest in the position. **M/S/P to appoint Tom Snow to the Board**, with applause all around.
 3. Membership/Education Chair. Linda brought up the need to appoint a Committee Chair and Tom expressed willingness to take on this position, citing his already extensive experience recruiting players and doing education. Nancy also expressed willingness to serve, so Linda appointed Tom to take the lead on the Education/Membership, while Nancy will assume assisting duties.
 4. Request from Duncan Bridge for online collaboration. No interest was expressed by the Board. Linda will communicate this to the Duncan Bridge Club.
 5. Membership List Use and Distribution. This item will be deferred to a later meeting.
 6. Meet with Unit Club Leadership. Linda proposed meeting with the boards of the clubs in the Unit to strengthen communications. The Board favors this idea and supports a social component to this meeting. Rosemary volunteered to host this event, to include "+1" invitations to board members. Date to be set for sometime later this summer.
 - B. Treasurer. Gary previously distributed financial reports via email.
 1. We have ~\$18K in the bank, with ~\$1K in expected income. **M/S/P to accept the report with appreciation to Gary.**
 2. Investment options. Gary suggested we take advantage of the good interest rates available currently. **M/S/P to approve \$12K purchase of Treasury Bills.**
 3. Gary noted with appreciation a \$300 gift from the Blacklake Club, and the Board heartily concurred. Blacklake's intention is to support education activity.
 - C. Sectional Tournament.
 1. Rosemary reported that we have an ACBL sanction for March 22-24, 2024.
 2. Discussion about pro's and con's of SLO Ludwick Center and AG Women's Club. Consensus was that we are willing to consider the SLO site. **M/S/P that Rosemary do further investigation and select a site.** She will report back

and conduct a poll of Board about her selection. Much appreciation was expressed to Rosemary for her excellent diligence in this process.

D. Website Update

1. Dick Coulter expressed thanks to Jim Borland for the years he spent on the website, and for his extensive help in migrating to our new website. Board concurred.
2. Dick discussed the possibilities of features in the new website for future use.
3. **M/S/P to approve the new website and “go live” when Dick is ready.**

E. Longest Day/Alzheimer’s Fundraiser

1. Bud reported that much support is already coming in, the launch will be Saturday, June 10, and continue the week of June 19-25 with raffle and possible silent auction.

F. Discipline Committee - Jack reported no items to consider.

V. Old Business. - no items for action.

VI. New Business - items deferred to July meeting.

VII. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 12:00.

Next Meeting: Friday July 14, 11:AM, SLO Senior Center.

Respectfully submitted

Bud Zeuschner,
Amanuenses Pro Tempore

- I. **Quorum/Agenda:** The meeting was called to order by President Linda Seifert at 11:03 am. at the SLO Senior Center conference room. Linda Seifert, Brad Prior, Gary Yant, Howard Gee, Rosemary Heath, Tom Snow, Nancy Oliver, and Bud Zeuschner were in attendance, establishing a quorum. The agenda was reviewed and accepted.
- II. **June Minutes:** Secretary Pro Tem Bud Zeuschner previously distributed the June meeting minutes to the board. One amendment was made, that “Tom is now the education chair, while Nancy will take the lead on membership chair, with assistance from Tom.” The minutes were approved M/S/P as amended. Thank you, Bud!
- III. **President’s Report:** Linda reported about the article on the Nat. Collegiate Bridge Championship. Gayle Larsen is checking on interest in bridge from students at both Cal Poly and Cuesta College
- IV. **Treasurer’s Report:** Gary Yant presented the treasurer’s report. The current July 1, balance on hand is \$17,751. The report was M/S/P approved as presented. Gary noted that the balance was down \$887 from last month, because of the \$1000 donation by the Unit to the ACBL Alzheimer’s Charity. This donation was confirmed by a motion (M/S/P) today to formally approve the donation, as discussed in emails during June. Also, Gary reported on his investigation into finding an investment with measurable returns, for a portion of the Unit funds. There are methods, such as Schwab money market account, which may work for us; Howard and Gary will get all the pertinent details.
- V. **Sectional Tournament:** Rosemary is moving forward on planning for the 2024 Unit 540 Sectional Tournament. The date of March 22-24, 2024 has been approved by the national ACBL. With the renegotiated rate for the Arroyo Grande Community

Center, we expect the next tourney to be more profitable, and slightly larger than this year. For our sectional, Rosemary has secured approval for the director to be Lynn Yokel, who was named National Director of the Year for ACBL just a few years ago. We hope to have Lynn's son as the caddy, during the Swiss event, supported at \$20/hr. There may be some small changes in the game schedule, food plans, etc., prior to creation of a flyer for distribution by the National office and our unit. Our entire tournament committee team will meet in the early fall, 6 months before the event, to solidify details.

- VI. **Membership** :The mailing list was the next topic discussed. With input to Constant Contact and webmaster Dick Coulter, Nancy is leading an effort to correct the address errors, remove addresses of deceased players, etc. We hope to make a more visible presentation of the rank advancements, and the standings in the Mini-McKinney and Ace of Clubs point totals.
- VII. **Mentoring**: Last September, 2022, Gail Lapins and Gary Yant committed to a year of lessons, to be given prior to the monthly unit games. This has been a wonderful success, for players in all of our clubs, and has helped increase attendance at live bridge in our unit. Kudos and thanks to Gail and Gary. The board discussed continuation of the program. Jim and Kathy Borland will be approached, to see about leading the consuming task of planning and coordinating these lessons. Jim Merzon continues to offer his teaching skill for more advanced players, while Tom Snow will continue to develop the more novice players with lessons in Arroyo Grande.
- VIII. **Website**: This is completely ready and functioning. Rosemary Heath and Dick Coulter, with our director, John Fields, Jr., will try to offer a brief tutorial about the unit website, prior to a future unit game. We will continue to revise and update the desired information to be included in the new site.

- IX. **The Longest Day:** Bud Zeuschner reported that our week long effort was much more successful than he expected--**THANK YOU, BUD!** A total of \$6008 was sent to the ACBL charity, Alzhiemers Research, from the generous members of Unit 540.
- X. **Old and New Business:** Gayle Larsen has agreed to be the partnership person, for players seeking a partner at the monthly unit games. Tom hopes to have a “barometer” style event at our clubs in the future; details will follow about what this means. The Paso Robles clubs offers a Monday afternoon and a Thursday afternoon game, but our unit lacks a Tuesday game. We will investigate interest in renewing a game on Tuesday in Morro Bay.
- XI. **The next unit board meeting will be held on August 11, following the Friday unit game, at approximately 4:45 pm, at the home of Rosemary Heath, 554 Al Hill Drive, SLO. Plus 1 guests are welcome.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Gee, Secretary

- I. **Quorum/Agenda:** The meeting was called to order by **President Linda Seifert** at 4:38 pm. at the home of Rosemary Heath and Dick Coulter. Linda Seifert, Brad Prior, Gary Yant, Howard Gee*, Rosemary Heath*, Jack Luxton*, Yoli Medina, and Bud Zeuschner* were in attendance, establishing a quorum [*indicates plus 1 guest in attendance]. The meeting agenda was reviewed and accepted. **Thank you to Rosemary and Dick for hosting this more social board meeting, including plus 1 guests.**
- II. **July Minutes:** **Howard Gee** previously distributed the July meeting minutes to the board. The minutes were approved M/S/P as distributed.
- III. **President's Report:** Linda reported a **District 22 Goodwill Ambassador for ACBL was being sought. It was M, S, P to recommend Bud Zeuschner for this position.** Linda continued by noting that she would not be playing at the unit game on 8/12. Next she presented a thank you card and monetary gift card on behalf of the board to Dick Coulter (and Rosemary) for his exceptional work in creating the new website for Unit 540. At the unit game, Rosemary will announce some recent rank achievements for some of our players (**Sapphire Life Master for Tom Snow**, etc.) and she would introduce Dick to the players in attendance. Linda stated that Dick, with assistance from John Fields, Jr., would present some introductory information about the website to the players at the unit game. **Dick Coulter** expressed his gratitude for the cards. He noted Tom's teaching materials, in digital form, might be added to the site soon. He also noted the site contains info on partnership coordinators, Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKinney standings, etc. In the near future he will make a similar introduction of the website to members of the Arroyo Grande and SLO clubs. Next, there was

discussion about inviting the leadership members of the clubs within our unit to the October board meeting, for an exchange of ideas and hopes on how the unit can better meet the needs of the clubs. It was agreed to provide a budget of \$250 in support of this effort, with the October meeting to again be held at the home of Rosemary and Dick.

IV. Treasurer's Report: Gary Yant presented the treasurer's report. The current August 1 balance on hand is \$17,743, nearly unchanged from last month. The report was M/S/P approved as presented. Also, Gary reported on his investigation into finding an investment with measurable returns, for a portion of the Unit funds. Howard and Gary got information about the Schwab money market account; the details showed it to be cumbersome and not feasible. He also presented information on available accounts at Pacific Western Bank in San Luis Obispo. **It was Moved, Seconded, and Passed to move our accounts from their current institution to Pacific Western, and, at the guidance of President Linda Seifert, Secretary Howard Gee, and Treasurer Gary Yant, to select the savings/investment and checking accounts best suited to our needs.**

V. Sectional Tournament: Rosemary Heath is moving forward on planning for the 2024 Unit 540 Sectional Tournament. For our sectional, Rosemary is finalizing details for the director to be Lynn Yokel, and to have Lynn's son as the caddy, during the Swiss event. Rosemary is clarifying small changes in the game schedule, and other details, prior to creation of a flyer for distribution by the National office and our unit. She expects this to be completed in the very near future. She plans to have the entire sectional tournament committee team meet in the November, about 5 months before the event, to solidify duties and other details. She announced a reciprocity understanding with the Santa Barbara team, where their sectional tournament will be announced in our flyer, and our tournament in their flyer.

- VI. **Membership : Nancy Oliver** had a sincere discussion with Linda, and feels very uncomfortable with being the membership chair. She feels her computer skills are not equal to the needs of the position. She will make calls as needed to get details on old and new members, and, for the present, with major communication assistance from Rosemary (email assistance, etc.) will continue to work in this area for the unit.
- VII. **Mentoring: Kathy Borland** agreed to continue and lead the very consuming task of planning and coordinating the monthly mentoring sessions, in the morning, prior to the Unit Game, beginning with the October session. **Thank you to Gail Lapins and Gary Yant for creating, leading, and aiding the transition period of this extremely successful mentoring program for the unit.** Jim Merzon continues to offer his teaching skill for more advanced players, while Tom Snow will continue to develop the more novice players with lessons in Arroyo Grande.
- VIII. **The Longest Day: Bud Zeuschner** stated a final report will be announced and published soon (some pledged contributions have continued to go directly to ACBL from our members), with around \$8000 from our efforts.
- IX. **Old and New Business: Gayle Larsen** checked on interest in bridge from students at both Cal Poly and Cuesta College. There was insufficient interest and excessive red tape connected, so this effort will be halted.
- X. **The next unit board meeting will be held on September 8, prior to the Friday SLO game, at 11:00 am, at the Senior Center. John Fields, Jr. our Game Director, will be invited to attend if possible.** With no further old or new business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Gee, Secretary

- I. **President Brad Prior** at 11:05 am. Linda Seifert was unexpectedly ill and unable to attend. Brad Prior, Gary Yant, Howard Gee, Rosemary Heath, Yoli Medina, Nancy Oliver and Bud Zeuschner were in attendance, establishing a quorum. The meeting agenda was reviewed and accepted. **No meetings were held in October and November.**
- II. **September Minutes: Rosemary Heath** previously distributed the September meeting minutes to the board. The minutes were approved M/S/P as distributed, with one correction to the meeting adjournment time. Thank you, Rosemary, for the fine work.
- III. **President's Report:** Brad started by stating Linda wanted a short meeting, to allow ample time for the Club Holiday party, which was being held at noon. Brad stated that **Tom Snow** expressed his intention to resign from the board. He noted Tom will continue teaching novice and intermediate players at the Arroyo Grande club. Next, the updated plan of inviting the leadership members of the clubs within our unit will be at the February 9, 2024 board meeting, for an exchange of ideas and hopes on how the unit can better meet the needs of the clubs. Currently, the February meeting is again planned to be held at the home of Rosemary and Dick. Finally, Linda is preparing an agenda for the January Unit Members meeting, where the primary item will be election of the club directors. A replacement nominee for Tom Snow is needed soon, so the agenda can be properly published to the members before the meeting. Various members have been approached, but none have agreed to serve, so far.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report: Gary Yant** presented the treasurer's report. The current December 1 balance on hand is \$16,401.45, down from last month by approximately \$704, and down about \$1200 from this time last year, but some of this will be reimbursed by

the national, for our ad regarding lessons given by Tom. The report was M/S/P approved as presented. Also, Gary reported that our new investments at Pacific Western are earning, but those earned amounts have not been added to this report. Finally, it is expected that our 2024 sectional tournament is expected to have a significant increase in attendance and income, compared to 2023.

- V. **Sectional Tournament: Rosemary Heath** is moving forward on planning for the 2024 Unit 540 Sectional Tournament. For our sectional, Rosemary has secured the services and expertise of Lynn Yokel as the director. Significant expense has been avoided due to Linda providing lodging for the director. Rosemary has clarified small changes in the game schedule, and other details. A flyer was created for distribution by the National office and our unit. She expects this to be completed in the very near future. The entire sectional tournament committee team met on December 4, about 4 months before the event, to solidify duties and other details. Rosemary's leadership and organization has us poised for a very successful sectional.
 - VI. **Membership: Nancy Oliver**, with major communication assistance from Rosemary, (email assistance, etc.) will continue to work in this area for the unit.
 - VII. **Mentoring: Kathy Borland** has continued the very time-consuming task of planning and coordinating the monthly mentoring sessions, in the morning, prior to the Unit Game.
 - VIII. **Old business: Gary** reminded us it would be wise to find and train additional folks to be a director for our local games. John Fields, Jr. is our primary director, with a few other trained but reluctant former directors available currently. **Brad** suggested that he is interested, and he will get more information from Gary, regarding the process, timeline, etc.
 - IX. **The next unit board meeting will be held on January 12, prior to the Friday SLO game, at 11:00 am, at the Senior Center. The**
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Annual Unit Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 13, prior to the 12:30 pm regular unit game at the Senior Center. With no further old or new business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Gee, Secretary