

**UNIT 119 MEETING
WHISPERING PINES, NORTH CAROLINA
SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2012**

Unit Board Members in Attendance: George Bloomer, Judith Bloomer, Jan Davis, Glen Eyler, Ann Griffin, Sue Kimball, Shirley Kozej, John Marriott, Ann Pozdol, Bruce Reeve, David Rogers, and Jamie Sue Schmidt.

David Rogers, Vice President, called the meeting to order.

Reports

October 2011 Board Meeting Minutes – In the absence of the Recording Secretary, the President presented a meeting report to unit board members via email.

Treasurer's Report – Receipts were \$1,573 and expenditures were \$1,943. Total cash on hand is \$14,532. The financial report was approved.

Charity Report – No report.

District 7 Report – Sam Marks was elected President of District 7. Atlanta is hosting the Nationals in August 1-11, 2013 and is looking for volunteers. The 30" bridge table is no longer manufactured and is being replaced by a 36" table which may cause spacing issues at the various tournament venues.

2011 Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs Awards

The 2011 Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs awards for the Unit will be presented at the Raleigh Sectional in February.

Raleigh Regional – May 22-28, 2012

John Marriott, Tournament Chair, stated that six cities within the Unit are being asked to host the hospitality area for one day during the event. Each city can choose whatever day they would like, and Raleigh will do the hosting on the day not chosen by others. The Unit, as previously approved, will subsidize each city up to \$100 each to cover some of the hospitality cost. Bruce Reeve, noting that the Unit is comprised of very diverse areas, encouraged each hosting city to look for a unique way to promote its area, i.e. checking with the local Chamber of Commerce for free promotional items, etc. Also, Bruce recommended that each local area bring flyers to the Regional to promote their upcoming Sectionals.

Judith and George Bloomer have retired from operating the Prize Desk, and John Markey has accepted the position. The Bloomers will get to John all the appropriate paperwork on handling the distribution of prizes to the winners.

New Business

Rank Advancement Cards were prepared and mailed by Lee Johnson in 2011. She will be asked if she is interested in continuing this role in 2012. An honorarium of \$180 per year (\$15 per month) for performing this task was approved by the Board.

The Board voted to nominate Ann Lockhart of New Bern and Ann Pozdol of Pinehurst to the District 7 Goodwill Committee for 2012.

Unit 119 representatives to District 7 meetings for 2012 are John Markey, David Rogers, Sue Kimball, and Jan Davis.

Discussion took place on whether the Unit should purchase a \$4500 dealing machine to be used at the Unit Sectionals. After weighing the pros and cons, a vote was taken, and the proposal to buy a dealing machine was not passed.

Case Study—Starting a Country Club Game

Bruce Reeve shared his experience about starting a new duplicate bridge game at a country club in Raleigh. His game has grown steadily, and several of his players attended the Whispering Pines Sectional. Bruce elaborated that running this type of game requires patience by the Director and non-enforcement of some of the Duplicate Laws (i.e. hesitations) since these are newer duplicate players who should be encouraged, and not reprimanded, as they are learning the game.

Bruce stressed that beginning a new duplicate game in a non-bridge club setting should be made fun for the players. Starting a game at a country club is a good venue since typically country club members who play golf are competitive and are eager to participate in another challenging sport. Also, those who used to play years ago are not playing today because they are rusty, and with some encouragement, they can be brought back into the game.

Jan Davis pointed out that in the current bridge Bulletin, several local ACBL members were recognized for recruiting 100 or more new players. David Rogers explained that when a new member is signed up at a tournament, the local Director takes credit for that enlistment. The local tournament chairperson should advise the Director beforehand that if new players are recruited, it should be credited to the local club where the Sectional is held so that the club can earn an upgraded Club Championship game for future use.

Bruce Reeve asked the Unit to look into a club that reportedly has turned away eligible players.

The next Unit meeting will be at the Raleigh Sectional on Saturday, June 16th.

Meeting adjourned.

Prepared by: Ann Pozdol, January 15, 2012.