



Unit 557 Board Meeting
October 22, 2024

Members Present: Cherene Birkholz, Leo Dittimore, Fern Dunbar, Joey DuRee, Nancy Imbery, Judy Jones, Chuck Laine, Linda Leventhal, Alan Olschwang, Ann Peacock, Lillian Slater, Casey Stiers

President Lillian called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

Approval of Prior Minutes: Alan moved and Ann seconded a motion to approve the September 17, 2024, minutes. All voted in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Jenny reported that:

- The ending balance on the checking account was \$15,444.97.
- The unit netted \$10 on the September Unit game, a positive departure from previous months.
- The unit also received \$932.24 as a membership rebate from ACBL.
- Jenny doesn't recognize some of the names on our ACBL membership lists and is wondering if the new people are playing at the club.
- Cherene reported that the new people in Hank's class are ACBL members.

Hospitality Report: Nancy sent cards to:

- Sue Boswell for a knee replacement
- Allene Buchanan who had fallen on her wrist
- Mony Barkol who had a stint in the hospital
- Board Member Mary McIntyre who was on a COVID quarantine and briefly hospitalized.

Long Beach Bridge Center Update

- Chuck reported that the LBBC is in good shape, largely due to the extra weekly income from classes and a monthly contribution from Bridge Brigade.
- As always, the club appreciates the teachers and 199'er directors/assistants who volunteer their time.
- Negotiations over the necessity/cost of a new sign are on hold because Chuck's original contact with the landlord's management company quit.
- Lillian pointed out that Marina Circle has a beautiful new mural of a surf scene on the side next to the car wash.
- There is still the same problem with trash overflowing the bins. After Chuck's initial contact, it was cleaned up. Chuck will contact them again.
- The wall in our back room was opened during renovation for work the contractor needed to do. It still needs to be sanded and painted to its original condition. Chuck will be following through on this.
- Royal STaC Week will be November 18-23, right after our sectional tournament.
- Rita and Jenny are working together to update our membership list; sometimes we don't know when people have died.
- The club updated its router to improve Internet service.

Hybrid Bridge Tournament: On January 12th there will be a Hybrid Event held at the club:

- Tom Reynolds and John Jones have organized a prototype tournament with four clubs participating: Long Beach, Pasadena, South Bay, and the valley's 750 Club.
- Competitors will bring their laptops and will play in person with a director proctoring to ensure no cheating.
- It will be possible to play with a person at another club on your laptop.
- The game is not sanctioned by the ACBL and will not award masterpoints. Instead, winners will get a chance to play with top players at another session.
- Nancy questioned whether the Bridge Center will get paid for the use of our facility; we will be.
- Lillian questioned whether team games could be played online; Judy said that she played online team games Sunday morning, so yes.

Unit Game, October 27th

- Director: Sean Lui
- Boards: Lillian
- Food: Cookies and Ice Cream – Judy & Lillian

Leisure World Report

- Judy reported that there were 9 days of play with 67 tables, averaging 7.4 tables per day.
- This is an improvement over August, but October may be slower.
- President Fred has resigned and has been replaced by Bud Parish.
- There was a holiday party on Friday.
- George Alemshah and Paul Chen had a 71% game.

New Business

ALACBU Board Meeting: Sunday, November 10, at noon

- Ann can participate remotely.

Final Plans for November 16-17 Sectional:

- Judy, who oversees the partnership desk, reports that only a few have requested. Lillian added that reservations via email have been slow, with more non- members unit players. It will be announced at the club.
- In addition to the table sanction fees, there is a \$500 fee for a coordinating director.
- Nancy and Jenny volunteered to make cookies; Lillian and Rita will bring fruit.
- In the mornings, there will be muffins on Saturday and bagels on Sunday.

Chuck moved and Ann seconded a motion to adjourn at 11:40 a.m.

Next meeting on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, at 11 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Linda Leventhal, Secretary of Unit 557