

**DISTRICT V BOARD MEETING  
Saturday September 5, 2010**

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE**

Officers Present: Mary Paulone Carns (President), John Toy (Vice President), Brian Ellis (Treasurer)

Executive Board Members Present: Jan Assini , Sharon Fairchild , Lou Joseph, John Tscholl, Marc Sylvester,

Unit Representatives Present: Jim Sullivan, Carolyn Sullivan (107); Barbara Bacon, Hope Ellis, Mary Lou Harmon (125); Shirley Irish (127); Sue McQuillan, Asim Ulke, Jane Marshall, Bill Holt (142); Jack Goodykoontz (148), Bud Kury (185); Jim Overcashier, Terry Kessler (213); Barbara Grzegorzewski (226); George Cross (229)

Units Not Represented: 111, 116, 129, 177

Guests: Sharon Rohr (142); Vicki Goodykoontz (148); Terry Kessler (213); Steve Grzegorzewski (226); Barbara Norante (229), Alex Bealles (229, tournament coordinator)

**WELCOME**

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 PM. President Mary Paulone Carns welcomed everyone to the District V board meeting, and all attendees introduced themselves.

**MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes were previously emailed to the members, and were approved.

## **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS/CORRESPONDENCE**

President Carns announced the plans for distribution of the charity funds regarding presentations and noted that Stewart's Place was to be added to the list of possible recipients. She also noted that the annual Election of Officers was inadvertently left off the agenda. At that point she turned over control of the meeting to Sharon Fairchild so the elections could commence.

## **ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS**

President – Mary Paulone Carns (142) was unanimously reelected--nominated by Bud Kury (185) and seconded by Jan Assini (125)

Upon reelection, President Carns resumed control of the meeting.

Vice President – John Toy (116) was unanimously reelected--nominated by Mary Lou Harmon (125) and seconded by Sue McQuillan (142)

Treasure – Brian Ellis (125) was unanimously reelected--nominated by Hope Ellis (125) and seconded by Jan Assini (125)

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Treasurer's Report**— Brian Ellis presented the Treasurer's Report, highlights as follows:

- The reports now show our profit/loss statements to reflect our tax year which ends on July 31.
- Our net worth has decreased approximately \$15,000.00 over the previous tax year

**National Board Items**--Sharon Fairchild distributed a written report, which had been previously emailed to unit presidents, highlights as follows:

- The ACBL has donated additional funds in Louisiana due to the tremendous problems created by the oil well crisis in the Gulf of Mexico. These monies include donations to the Louisiana SPCA, as well as other charities.
- The Goodwill Committee meeting in New Orleans was primarily devoted to the memory of Aileen Osofsky
- A new event, the Senior Mixed Pairs, has been added to the NABC Fall schedule

**Fifth Column** – In the absence of Sharon Robertson, Mary Carns reported that there are no problems, but reminded everyone that submissions are due in a timely fashion one month prior to publication.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

### **REGIONAL TOURNAMENT REPORTS**

#### **Pittsburgh “Roni” Labor Day Regional** – (Ongoing)

President Carns advised that everything was running smoothly and according to schedule. She praised the Hyatt management and staff for their efficiency and accommodation to our needs. She pointed out that the chairs were disappointed with the lower than expected turnout at the beginning of the tournament but noted that attendance had picked up during the week so that as of now we were running close to even with the previous year.

**Buffalo Spooktacular Regional** – John Toy reported that the tournament will be held at Grand Island. He stressed the schedule changes regarding additional knockout and noted that this year due to a scheduling conflict with the World Bridge Series Championships in Philadelphia, the NAOP will be held concurrently at the Buffalo Regional on Saturday and Sunday. He hopes that this may increase attendance at the tournament. Mary noted that the organizers were asking people who are planning to play in the NAOP to register on the D5 website to help those in charge prepare for the anticipated attendance. She pointed out that registration is not mandatory, but would be a great help – she asked all board members to pass this information on to their unit members.

**Cleveland Rock and Roll Regional** – Sharon Fairchild reported that the January 2011 tournament is being worked on. The schedule is finalized and hoped that all board members would encourage their unit members to attend. Flyers were distributed.

### **NAOP and GNT**

Barbara Bacon reiterated that the 2010 NAOP would be held concurrently with the Buffalo Regional at Grand Island. In regards to the GNT, with the current plans to rotate among the three (3) major metropolitan areas in the District, it was Buffalo’s turn to host this event. She advised that John Toy had been investigating the possibility of holding the event (scheduled for April 30 and May 1, 2011) at the Buffalo Racetrack and Casino in Hamburg, New York. The 2011 NAOP scheduled for October 8 and 9 will once again be held in Meadville, Pennsylvania

## **STaC**

President Carns reported that the Summer STaC went well. She reported that the on-line registration procedures for the games seems to be working smoothly. The Winter STaC is scheduled for December 6-12, 2010, the first week directly following the Fall Nationals.

## **Website**

Bill Holt thanked Mary for mentioning the NAOP registration on the District 5 Website. He reported that there are no problems, and once again asked all members to forward flyers or tournament info as soon as it is available so that he can post it on the website in a timely fashion.

## **Membership**

Marc Sylvester advised that the District has resumed sending welcome letters to new members which now include information packets as well as one (1) free play to any District 5 event.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Education and Marketing** – Jan Assini reported that the participation in the Cleveland school bridge programs has more than quadrupled. She advised that the biggest hurdle is the lack of teachers, and requested any assistance that might be available. She noted that there were funds available not only from the ACBL but also from District 5 and encouraged everyone to report back to their units regarding this information and to contact her for additional details. She spoke of the program funded by the Gates Foundation which Cleveland is hoping to coordinate with their program. She also announced that a special session was being planned at the upcoming January Regional for those students already participating in the Cleveland program.

**Distibution of Charity Funds** – Presentations were made on behalf of the following charities being considered (brief descriptive information attached):

- Lawrence County (PA) Association for Retarded Citizens, presented by George Cross (229)
- Family and Community Services, Inc. (Portage County, OH) presented by Jan Assini (125)
- Crohn's and Colitis Research Initiative of Northeast Ohio (no presenter available)
- Susan G. Komen Foundation presented by Sharon Fairchild (125)
- Sigal Foundation (PA) to support research at the UPMC IBD Center presented by Sue McQuillan (142)

- Cleveland Whist Club Scholarship Fund, presented by Barbara Bacon (125)
- FIRE (Foundation for Individual Rights in Education) presented by Bill Holt (142)
- The Little Portion Friary (Buffalo, NY) presented by John Toy (116)
- Niagara Hospice or Roswell Park Cancer Center (NY) presented by John Toy (116)
- The Gathering Place (Cleveland, OH) presented by Barbara Bacon (125)
- “Empty Bowl Project” for the Westmoreland County Food Bank (PA) presented by Mary Paulone Carns (142)
- Big Brothers and Big Sisters (National Organization) presented by Barbara Bacon (125)
- Stewart’s Caring Place (Akron, OH) presented by Carolyn Sullivan (107)

Subsequent to the presentations, Sharon Fairchild distributed ballots to all eligible voting members. Mary Carns advised all voters that were entitled to vote for up to six (6) charities. The District Secretary with the assistance of Jane Marshall tallied the votes and the results were presented; the top six vote recipients were:

- Lawrence County Association for Retarded Citizens
- Family and Community Services, Inc.
- Sigal Foundation
- The Little Portion Friary
- “Empty Bowl Project” for the Westmoreland County Food Bank
- Stewart’s Caring Place

As there were no ties, each of the above charities will receive \$ 5000.00.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Jack Goodykoontz asked about the feasibility of the District investing in duplicating machines for our tournaments. Sharon Fairchild advised that she has been researching this item.

Barbara Bacon advised that Cleveland Sectional has lost their site in Solon, OH, but she is close to signing a contract for a new site, which will be announced as soon as available.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no additional business, at 6:50 PM, the meeting was adjourned.