



# BOARD MEETING REPORT

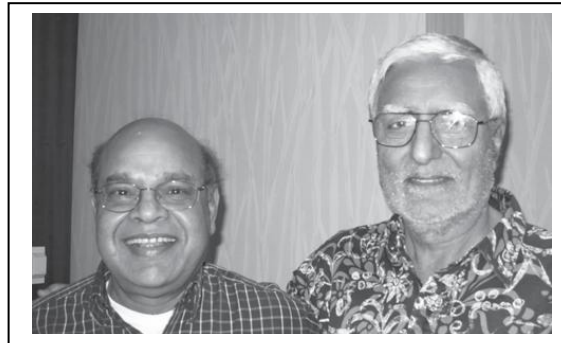
Fall 2013  
Phoenix

A. Beth Reid, [District 11 director@acbl.org](mailto:District11director@acbl.org)

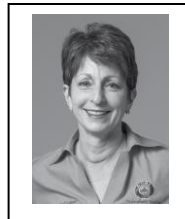


*The Phoenix Committee put on a great NABC. After arriving during a record rainfall, the weather was perfect and I even managed to see a mesa or two and Taliesin West (Frank Lloyd Wright) on this, my first visit to Arizona. I spent Thanksgiving on a very rocky road in a pink jeep! Alas, all was not bliss---unfortunately for all of us, some bridge players behaved so poorly---abusing hotel staff and stealing from concession stations--- that the Sheraton staff begged to change shifts to avoid bridge players. Very disturbing and completely embarrassing. Behavior anywhere at an NABC is subject to ACBL discipline but it's sad to think it's come to that. I'm sure no one from THIS district would ever behave in such a way but I urge everyone to CALL fellow bridge players on unacceptable behavior!*

## District Bragging Rights



**Suman Agarwal**, pictured above with his partner Harjinder Ajmani won the 0-5000 "Mini" Blue Ribbon Pairs. Suman, a very active member of our Columbus unit, attributed the win to "good steady play". "All of our sessions were in the 60% range except one," said Ajmani. "We were trailing every day, but we stayed near the top and got enough tonight to finish ahead." In a field of 290 pairs, the winners were seventh after the first day of play, and 10th after the second day. But when it counted, they were at the top, finishing with 1700.22 (38 was top).



**Donna Coker**, one of our District's recent director acquisitions, was singled out both by her colleagues and by our players, winning the Professional Tournament Directors Assn Fred Friendly Award and the ACBL's Jane Johnson Customer Service Award. Donna moved to Louisville from St. Louis and we're thrilled to have her. She has, most importantly been promoted to full-time director---always good to see good women in good positions! Congratulations Donna!



## NEW ACBL PRESIDENT

My dear friend Phyllis Harlan, of Oklahoma City (District 15) was elected as President of the ACBL for 2014. No one works harder than Phyllis and she is certain to be a champion for clubs and teachers.



## MEMBERSHIP

As of the end of October, we have netted 1,504 additional members, the highest membership gain in a single year since 1993. We now stand at 167,912. Regional and Sectional table counts have shown small declines compared to last year, but STaCs are up.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO EMAIL ME AT THE ADDRESS ABOVE WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS OR SUGGESTIONS OR HEYHOWAREYAS YOU WISH AND I'LL DO MY BEST TO RESPOND PROMPTLY. HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL AND SEE YOU IN INDY!

BETH

## FINANCE

We approved a budget for 2014 showing a projected excess of revenues over expenditures of \$5,832, together with a capital budget of \$670,000. In order to achieve such a near balanced result, we incorporated **an increase in membership dues** as follows: New member dues will increase from \$28 to \$29 and regular one year dues will increase from \$37 to \$39 (all other membership types will be adjusted accordingly) beginning April 1, 2014. There will be NO increase in Junior or Patron dues.

In addition, all **tournament sanction fees will be increased** 1.5% beginning April 1, 2014.

## APPLICATION OF CDR TO UNIT-SPONSORED CLUBS

As most of you are aware, the ACBL Code of Disciplinary Regulations does NOT generally apply to club games EXCEPT in instances of cheating. This allows independent club-owners to run their businesses in the manner they think best without the burdens of the complex ACBL disciplinary procedures. Games that are run by

the UNIT, e.g., Unit Championships, STaCs, etc, however, ARE subject to the CDR. This has always been true. At this meeting the CDR was amended to make clear that "Unit Sponsored Clubs" are those which have any one or more of the following features: (a) a board which is the same as the unit board or which is appointed by the unit, or (b) a co-mingling of funds with those of the unit, or (c) a placement of funds in a unit-owned account, or **(d) the appointment of a club manager or director by the Unit.** This last clause will to my knowledge affect at least Louisville and Cincinnati and may well affect others. In these cases the bridge centers have some games where the unit holds the sanction and "leases" the game to an independent director. These games are now clearly subject to the CDR. This may or may not cause confusion to players to whom all games operate identically but behavioral issues may be handled differently.

## ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES

Smoking is not permitted in the playing area during any bridge playing event at an NABC. This now specifically includes electronic smoking devices.

## YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY

The ACBL adopted and implemented a Youth Protection Policy prepared by Human Resources with the assistance of outside legal advice. The policy will apply to all minors attending or employed by tournaments. Sectional and Regional Tournaments will be subject to the policy as their sanctions will be contingent thereon. The policy will be made available in the next few weeks. Please contact me if you would like more information.

## OTHER ISSUES

Work continues in the following areas and changes can be expected in 2014:

NABC Events and Scheduling

Masterpoint Policy and Revisions

Marketing Initiatives

ACBL Score

TD Training and Development

