

Draft Minutes of the May 7, 2009 NVBA Annual Meeting

I. Dinner	1730-1830
II. Annual meeting	1830-1900
III. Bridge Match	1900- 2230 (39.5 tables, strataflighted)

President Leo Cardillo's address to the NVBA membership at Beth El Temple:

1. **WELCOME:** On behalf of all the NVBA Board members, I am pleased to welcome our members and guests to the forty-seventh Annual Meeting of the NVBA! In addition, tonight we commemorate the memory of Pat Eyman, a long-term member of the NVBA Board, VP and President, by conducting the twelfth annual "Pat Eyman Strawberry Pairs"! The Annual Meeting is now called to order.
2. **MINUTES:** The first order of business is to ask for a motion to accept last year's minutes (Copies are available for review). Do I hear a motion? Second? All those in favor?
3. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** The NVBA Policies and Procedures require that the Treasurer provide a "State of the NVBA Treasury" at the annual meeting. Livingston Johnson, our Treasurer, will now present his report. Copies of the financial summary for the 2008 fiscal year are available.

Livingston reported that the NVBA had an excess of approximately \$2,700 for the previous fiscal year and a bank balance of \$32,000.

Are there any questions about the Financial Report? There were none.

4. **HIGHLIGHTS:** Tonight's meeting will be my last chance to address you as President of the NVBA. When Margot and Bruce asked me to begin this journey as your President some six years ago, I was pleased to accept that invitation and humbled by all that I had yet to learn about this great game of bridge, its infrastructure and all of its professional and volunteer staff. Together, and with your tremendous support and patience, we have completed that journey and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have served the NVBA. Here are a few highlights:

(1). **Attendance:** Attendance at the Sectionals and the Unit Game continues to increase. The April Sectional attendance reached 497 tables, continuing a remarkable upward trend. Unit game attendance has also continued to increase with average attendance now in excess of 32 tables. I count our GP program(Norma's idea!), the free plays for the 0-5 players(Ron Kral) and the highly successful 199er game(Ron Kral, again!) all as critical elements that allow this enduring increase in attendance.

(2). **Finances:** See/refer to Treasurer's report.

(3). **Elks:** The Elks location for the Sectional is a proven success. Contracts and deposits are in place to secure the use of this excellent facility in the years ahead.

(4). **Beth El and First Presbyterian Church(FPC):** We have secured our place here at Beth El, including the small hall for the 199er game, and we have also secured a back-up contract at FPC.

(5) **Technology:** The acquisition of the duplicating equipment and new PC will enhance the playing enjoyment of all of our members.

(6) **The ACBL and the Nationals:** The NVBA actively supports the MABC(Regionals), the ACBL and the Nationals. Margot Hennings is Co-chair of the 2009 Nationals. Please attend the Nationals and volunteer to help Margot as she prepares for this wonderful event right here in our own backyard!

(7). **Youth Bridge:** The NVBA continues to actively support Youth Bridge at local schools, youth tournaments and the upcoming Youth National this summer. At any given NVBA event one can always find young players. This participation by the young players is essential for the future success of the NVBA and bridge, in general.

(8) **Quality of Play:** I believe that we have helped to shape the NVBA playing environment such that the NVBA is considered both a competitive and a FRIENDLY place to play the great game of bridge. This is excellent!

(9) **Volunteers:** The NVBA prospers because of the excellent work of our professional staff and our volunteers. Simply stated, the NVBA always needs more or new volunteers. If you are interested in helping out, please see me or any Board member to get started. You will enjoy the opportunity to serve the NVBA, its members, and this great game of bridge that we all enjoy!

5. **THANKS:** I would like to briefly thank some of the folks that are directly responsible for the success of the NVBA. Let me start by asking that the **NVBA Board members** stand and that you give them a big hand when they are all standing:

- NVBA VP Alan Breed.
- Treasurer Livingston Johnson
- Secretary Marge Gazzola
- Ron Kral
- Jim Dick
- Jennifer Nisenoff
- Bruce Houston
- Herb Fallin

There are many other **professional staff and volunteers** who support the NVBA throughout the year, literally too many to mention in one sitting. But I do want to acknowledge a few and I ask the following folks to stand as I call their name:

- Former Chief Unit game Director, Marshall Kuschner.
- Chief Unit game Director, Eugene Schuyler
- Deputy Unit Game Director Susan L'Heurux
- Unit Game Hospitality Chair, Bob Zier
- Tournament Chair Margot Hennings
- Unit Game Business manager, Marty Bley
- Cheer & Sympathy/Goodwill Chair, Virginia Fletcher.

- Recorder & Seeding, Bob Boyd
- Caddy Chair, Stan Schenker
- Conducts & Ethics Chair, Paul Black
- Membership Chair, Eric Poskanzer
- Newsletter Editor, Lucy McCoy
- Newsletter Production, Julianne Smith.
- Education, Joanne Pretti
- Webmasters, Sumner Steinfeldt and John Mason
- Prize Chair - Vacant
- Holiday Party/Annual Meeting, Ron & Mary Ann Kral, Jim & Linda Dick and others!
- Tournament Directors, Candy Kuschner, Doug Grove, Millard Nachtwey, Terry Lavender, and others.
- BIL Tony Cincotta
- Sectional PC, Mary Ann Kral

I know that I may have missed a few of these great support folks – please forgive me, if I did. Let's have a big round of applause for these folks and all the other volunteers that contribute to the NVBA program and are vital to its success!

6. **AWARDS:** At this time, I ask Alan to join me and assist in the presentation of our awards.

(1) **The Ace of Clubs** award is given to the player in each category who has won the most masterpoints in the previous year at clubs within the Unit. As I call your name, please come forward to receive your award(certIFICATE and a club free play)

0-5	Ike Oren
5-20	Allen Sparer
20-50	John Hambric
50-100	Eleanor Schwartz
100-200	Susan Klaber
200-300	Marilyn Golias
300-500	Yvonne Markell
500-1000	Bob Boyd
1000-2500	Kamel Tabbara
2500-5000	Ed Gofreed
5000-7500	Ken Davis
7500-10,000	Janet Gookin
10,000 +	Jeff Roman

(2) **The Mini-McKenney** award is given to the player in each category who has won the most masterpoints in the past calendar year as recorded by the ACBL. As I call your name, please come forward to receive your award (medal and a club free play).

0-5	Stephen Drodge
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5-20	Virginia Gibbons
20-50	Amanda Carter
50-100	Eleanor Schwartz
100-200	Linda Burton
200-300	Mary Ann Kral
300-500	Ellie Clark
500-1000	Kevin O'Brien
1000-2500	Herb Fallin
2500-5000	Al Duncker
5000-7500	Ken Davis
7500-10,000	Janet Gookin
10,000 +	Jeff Roman

(3) A key measure of the vitality of any Unit is the number of **new Life Masters** that are developed each year. The following 22 new Life Masters are being honored with their names embossed on the cakes that you see in the back of the room. I ask them to stand as I call out their names and that you hold your applause until they are all standing (**Life Masters play free at Annual meeting**):

Frank E. Alden
 Robert A. Brady
 Susan Brawn
 Dr. Jose Cortina
 Joyce E. Currie
 Abdul W. Etemadi
 Douglas R. Fox
 Larrie A. Gebbie
 Sulaiman Ghaussy
 Barbara Griffith
 Howard Grunin
 John W. Hornbeck
 Livingston M. Johnson
 Terry Jones
 Mary Ann Kral
 Dr. Barbara M. Macknick
 Maribel L. Newby
 Marvin D. Raines
 Monica M. Schumann
 Neil Selvin
 Holly P. Wills
 Jeff Youngen

Please enjoy the cake, but first join me in giving these new LM's a well-earned round of applause. And, yes, I will be looking for **ALL OF THEM** at this year's LM/NLM game on 2 July 2009. And the Board has voted to make the LM/NLM FREE

AGAIN for all players! It's a great deal and it's a lot of fun! Last year we had 44 tables. Be there!!!

(4) This is the sixth year that the NVBA is awarding the **“Dave Murray Favorite Partner Award”**, in memory of a very fine player who was also ‘everybody’s favorite partner’. Personally, I hold this particular award in the highest regard, because the winners are exceptionally talented bridge players who also demonstrate and promote the best possible behavior at the table. One cannot win this award with only great skill or exceptional behavior – one has to have both of these qualities. Although I have not had the pleasure of being a partner to this year’s winner, I can honestly say that the winner is one of my very favorite opponents! The many virtues of this year’s Dave Murray Award winner will be ably detailed by Alan Breed. Alan, the mike is yours! Alan Breed spoke, then presented this year’s Dave Murray award to Bob Hartmann.

(5) **The FINAL AWARDS:** Each year, the NVBA recognizes the top players of the year in four categories. These players have won more masterpoints playing in NVBA-sponsored events in the preceding twelve months than all of their peers. And the winners (2 Sectional Free Plays) are:

- i. Rookie of the Year (less than 20 MPs at the start of the year) – **Ike Oren**
- ii. The Rush Buckley NLM – **Amanda Carter**
- iii. The Man of the Year – **Ken Davis**
- iv. The Woman of the Year – **Janet R Gookin**

7. **RETIRING BOARD:** We are almost done! The NVBA Board works very hard to manage the business of the NVBA. This year four members of the Board are retiring, and I’d like them to come forward and accept a token of our appreciation for their service.

Leo Cardillo, President
Dale Dallaire, Treasurer
Marge Gazzola, Secretary
Ron Kral, Executive Director
Herb Fallin, Executive Director

8. **NEW BOARD:** I am pleased to welcome five new members to the Board:

Bob Boyd, President
Bill Nicolai, Treasurer
Paul Black, Executive Director
Virginia Gibbons, Executive Director
David Banh, Executive Director

The business of the Annual Meeting has been accomplished! Do I hear a motion to adjourn? Second? All in favor? Thank you!