

A N N O U N C M E N T S

XXX

Annual
Shareholder
Meeting

The 30th Annual Shareholder Meeting of The Bridge Center of Greater Lansing, Inc., will be **Saturday 9 May 2009 at 1:00PM**. After the meeting there will be a duplicate game.

SOME ITEMS ON THE AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING:

- What annual dues should Members for the coming year.
- Report from the Membership Promotion Committee.
- Reminder that Pro/Am is moving to the Fifth Wednesday.
- Library needs a new Librarian; Lucy Clark is retiring.
- Reminder that a new Friday Afternoon game has begun.
- Should the Bridge Center consider adding another afternoon game?
- What perks should there be for paying annual dues?
- Should a list of which members pay annual dues be posted?

Four two-year seats on the Board of Directors are up for election. Nominees are: Suzanne Baker, Jan Etienne, Darryl Haynes, Rick Johns, Mike Kerns, Ernamarie Messenger, Ken Recker, Diane Schafer. Holdovers: Jerry Avery, Gene Kales, and Ken Kosloski

See page 10 for the Absentee Ballot.

Capitol City Sectional June 26th - 28th 2009

Friday ...at the Bridge Center:

Friday 27 June 12:30PM Strat Pairs; 7:00PM Strat Swiss Teams.

Sat & Sun ...at Royal Scot Banquet Center 4722 W Grand River:

Saturday 28 June 11:00AM Strat Pairs; 3:00PM Strat Pairs.

Sunday 29 June 11:00AM Stratified Swiss Teams, playthrough.

Dinner between sessions on site both Saturday and Sunday.

Your Bridge Center now offers an **afternoon game on Fridays** at 12:30PM. If there is sufficient interest in afternoon games, your Board of Directors will add them to our Schedule.

If there enough interest in it, we will gladly schedule another
“COMPUTER TRAINING FOR PLAYERS AND DIRECTORS”
Coming Soon to your local Wednesday Evening
“HANDICAPPED IMP LEAGUE”

LOCAL UNIT 195 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR 2008

	Ace of Clubs	Mini McKenney
Rookie:	6 th Michael O'Neill	5 th Michael O'Neill
Club Master:	5 th Charis Linklater	4 th Joseph Stephenson
	8 th Joseph Stephenson	7 th Charis Linklater
Sectional Master:	2 nd Kenneth Recker	6 th Kenneth Recker
NABC Master:	9 th Janet Etienne	3 rd Janet Etienne
Life Master:	7 th Diane Schafer	3 rd Diane Schafer
		6 th Leon Schmelzer
		9 th Alice Hill
		10 th Richard Hill
Bronze LM:	3 rd George VanAmburg	1 st George VanAmburg
	7 th Helen VanAmburg	2 nd Helen VanAmburg
	10 th Gerald Avery	9 th Gerald Avery
Silver LM:	none	10 th Bruce Potter
Gold LM:	9 th Darryl Haynes	8 th Darryl Haynes
	10 th Jackie Oman	

Have you paid your dues?

only \$25⁰⁰!

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Spring Lessons: Gene is planning the Diamind Lesson Series to begin on Tuesdays in the near future. If you wish to be added to the postcard list for more info, let Gene know.
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it to the new Refreshment Room.

Whether to have a ventilated smoking lounge or to make the Bridge Center new site totally Non Smoking was discussed at some length. A poll was taken to approve a smoking lounge (with a more powerful exhaust fan than we currently have) at the new site. Aye: Haynes, Kales, Kosloski, Messenger. Nay: Baker, Stimpfle, with Munshaw Nay by communication to the Secretary beforehand on this specific issue. Discussion continued. Haynes moved that the Smoking/NonSmoking policy of the Bridge Center and the installation of any smoking exhaust system at the new site be tabled until the next meeting.

{ **11 February 2008, 5:30PM**}

Report for January showed -\$2,873 due to moving costs; bank balance of \$1,119 not counting the \$3,000 CD which matures on 3/22/08. Kales will request from Patrick Corr the refund of our \$1,125⁰⁰ security deposit with Frandorson Properties.

Reminders: Annual 'Senior Game' Mon aft February 25th 12:30PM, \$6⁰⁰ entry. ◦ Kales will email Jackson representatives about the Senior Game in Lansing. ◦ NABCs in Detroit March 6-16 at the downtown RenCen. ◦ Baker and Hammond will be representing our District 12 in the North American Open Pairs at the NABCs in Detroit. ◦ NonLM Sectional with Dinner Sat 24 May at 1 / 4:45 / 6PM.

Lucy Clark reported to the Board on the Library. About one-third of the outstanding overdue books have been returned. An updated list of books checked out is needed.

Baker recommended that the Bridge Center cancel all dinners which Kales prepares for the NonLM Sectionals because the liability of the Bridge Center and its Board of Directors to lawsuit if somebody gets sick. Matter is tabled until the Board can get a more comprehensive legal opinion.

Baker demanded that the Board forbid Kales from bringing his dog to the Bridge Center when he is working there. Motion by Kosloski (Messenger second) to permit Kales to bring his dog but not when a game is scheduled. Passed. Nay: Baker.

{ **18 February 2008, 6:15PM**}[continuation of last week's meeting...]

Secretary Kales noted for the Board that the XXIX Annual Meeting needs to be scheduled between April 15th and June 15th, usually on the first available Sunday therein. We could schedule the meeting for Sunday April 13th but that would require a member petition- this has been done on occasion previously. Because of Passover, Sectionals, and Holidays,

the first available Sunday is May 4th, and this date is selected.

Terms are expiring for Eugene Kales, Kenneth Kosloski, and Ernamarie Messenger. Nominating committee for candidates to the Board of Directors is Baker, Haynes, Munshaw, and Stimpfle. All three incumbents have been asked and are seeking reelection. The number of candidates sought to run is usually double the number to be elected; the Committee is encouraged to find three additional candidates. Anyone may nominate an active member in good standing to run for the Board of Directors to any member of the Committee or to the Secretary.

Kales suggested that a survey be included in the Newsletter on the Non-Smoking issue to provide Board of Directors with input in this matter of those who could not be present at the Board meetings when the issue was discussed. Baker immediately objected and after brief discussion, the consensus of the other Board members was that a survey is not necessary.

Baker reiterated the need for us to cancel the Dinners by Kales at the NonLM Sectionals. She said that they are illegal without a certified kitchen. Kales reminded the Board that the Unit rents the Bridge Center for NonLM Sectionals and thus it would seem the Unit bears the liability exposure.

{ **24 March 2008, 5:30PM**}

Report for February showed -\$51; bank balance of \$1,868; Kales had to make an emergency \$300⁰⁰ deposit from his own pocket until the security deposit refund check arrived.

Reminders: \$25⁰⁰ Annual dues are due! Beat the bushes! ◦ Club Championship Monday 24 March 7:00 and ◦ Club Championship Thursday 27 March 7:00 ◦ Memorial Charity Game for Carolyn McGill Monday 31 March 7:00 ◦ XXIX Annual Shareholder Meeting Sunday May 4th at 1:00PM ◦ NonLM Sectional with Dinner Sat 24 May at 1 / 4:45 / 6PM.

For the week following our annual meeting, Haynes suggested a “Bridge Week” schedule including Monday Open Pairs, Tuesday Individual, Wednesday Handicapped Swiss, Thursday Open Pairs, and Friday Stratified Swiss for May 5 through 9.

Kales presented the board with a petition requesting the Board to consider installation of a ventilated smoking lounge signed by thirty-six players including eight of the twenty-nine who had signed the petition last month but reconsidered their position.

After rancorous comments by Munshaw and Stimpfle and some further

heated discussion, the Board decided by a vote of 6 to 1 [Kales nay] not to consider the petition. This topic is deferred to the Annual Meeting and will be added to the published agenda.

Baker reiterated the need for us to cancel the Dinners by Kales at the NonLM Sectionals. Messenger relayed to the Board that when she checked with the City/County, she was told that there was no [legal] problem with the dinners since we were a club catering to members, not a public vendor. Munshaw will check further with the Ingham County Health Department in this matter.

Nominees for the election to the Board of Directors include incumbents Kales, Kosloski, and Messenger; Stimpfle will give the Secretary the rest of the names on Thursday.

{ **14 April 2008, 5:30PM**}

Report for March showed -\$865; bank balance of \$1,002; y-t-d loss of approximately \$4,000 includes costs of moving and remodeling.

Some friends of hers were upset at not being notified of the Carolyn McGill memorial game; a letter to Carolyn McGill's husband needs to be sent with notification of the amount donated to Hospice in her name; Baker to send letter.

Reminders: \$25⁰⁰ Annual dues are due! Beat the bushes! ○ Memorial Game for Omi Weitzman Monday 14 April 7:00, \$6⁰⁰. [Ingham Hospice] ○ Memorial Game for Gus McKearney Monday 28 April 7:00, \$6⁰⁰. [Sparrow Palliative Care] ○ XXIX Annual Shareholder Meeting Sunday May 4th at 1:00PM. ○ Bridge Week May 5th through 9th, see sign-up sheets. Notice in the State Journal about our Bridge Week will be placed by Baker. New District S.T.A.C. will make Monday and Thursday silver points. ○ NonLM Sectional with Dinner Sat 24 May at 1 / 4:45 / 6PM.

Joan Harkness *Bring-a-Dish* Party scheduled... Kales to check with Joan about whether Monday May 12th or 19th would be best.

Munshaw reported on talking with the Ingham County Health Department about serving food at the NonLM Sectional and there is an implication that kitchens at the Bridge Center and Kales home need to be 'certified' before we may charge money for a meal.

Kales will charge fees of \$11⁰⁰ per player per session for bridge and the potluck dinner will be free to anyone who wishes to partake; i.e.: provide free refreshments but don't sell food.

Kales continuing refurbishments; made and hung Bridge Center sign and

schedule in left front window/door, hung bulletin boards in playing area for game recap sheets.

Kales will be starting a new Lesson Series through the MSU Evening College this coming fall.

Secretary needs to send a shareholder phone list to members of the board so that annual meeting reminders may be telephoned.

{ **12 May 2008, 5:30PM**}

Results of the 4 May 2008 XXIX Annual Meeting Election with votes received bracketed: Eugene Kales[54], Jerry Avery[28], Ken Kosloski[27], Bill Archer[26], Diane Schafer[26], Ernamarie Messenger[23], Mike Kerns[14], Ken Recker[7]. There were 77 ballots cast; elected are Eugene Kales, Jerry Avery, and Ken Kosloski. Motion made and unanimously passed to certify these results.

Motion made by Kosloski to retain current officers with the exception of having to replace the Treasurer with someone else. Passed, Baker Nay. Jerry Avery accepted the suggestion that he be the Treasurer. Kales will add him to the signature list.

Report for March showed -\$525.21; bank balance of \$3,480; y-t-d loss of approximately \$4,440 includes costs of moving and remodeling.

Suggestions received from players to have an Individual more often; Schafer suggested that Stratification for Flight C be 0-500 (instead of NonLM500); Avery suggested that the Thursday evening game be Open as is the Monday game and move the Novice game to Tuesday or Wednesday; Angelacos requested that the front desk area be cleaned and neatened.

The Monday stratification will be changed from NonLM500 to a simple 500 for Flight C, effective immediately. Thursday Director Kales suggested that the game be divided into the usual Thursday NonLM Flight and a separate "Pro" Flight; the computer should be able to handle this. New Flight begins in June.

Reminders: Life Master *Bring-a-Dish* Party for Joan Harkness Mon May 19th. ◦ NonLM Sectional with Dinner Sat 24 May at 1 / 4:45 / 6PM. ◦ Pro/Am Game Thursday May 29th. ◦ Memorial Game for Jean Trierweiler 2 June 7:00, \$6⁰⁰.

Perks for dues-paid members will include a free birthday month game, and the Pro/Am pool pick for \$1⁰⁰.

Reminder by Baker to have minutes posted with ten days of each Board or Membership Meeting.

Kales reported that Bridge Week was a rousing success. Tuesday Individual as well as Wednesday and Friday Handicapped Team games were well received. Forty tables for the whole week! Gross income to Bridge Center \$795⁰⁰ including \$175⁰⁰ donated time by Kales who directed every game for free.

[...continued on p.11]

Do not sign this ballot or indicate your name anywhere on it. Seal the ballot in an envelope and sign your name on the outside of the envelope. Signed/unopened envelopes will be checked against the membership list and then ballots will be separated from the envelopes and counted. Unsigned envelopes containing ballots will be discarded without being counted.

Address the envelope containing your ballot to:

Absentee Balloting
Bridge Center of Greater Lansing
325 N Clippert Suite B
Lansing, MI 48912

All absentee ballots must be delivered to the Bridge Center by hand, or postmarked, by Friday 8 May, 2009.

Extra absentee ballots will be available at the Bridge Center during the two weeks preceding the Annual Meeting.

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OFFICERS OF THE BRIDGE CENTER OF GREATER LANSING, INC.

President and Club Manager Eugene J. Kales	Club Recorder Ken Kosloski	
Chairman of the Board Darryl Haynes	ACBL Liaison Ann Leonard	
Treasurer Jerry Avery	Bookkeeper David Sheedy	
Librarian <i>open</i>	Vice-President Jerry Stimpfle	Party Coörd Pat and Ann
Hospitality <i>open</i>	Secretary, Newsletter Editor Gene Kales	

B A L L O T

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following shareholders are nominated for seats on the Board of Directors of The Bridge Center of Greater Lansing. Vote for not more than four (4). Indicate your choice(s) by checking the box to the left of each you select.

Suzzanne Baker

Mike Kerns

Jan Etienne

Ernamarie Messenger

Darryl Haynes

Ken Recker

Rick Johns

Diane Schafer

[continued from p.8]

Kales received a letter from from the Health Officer and Medical Director of the Ingham County Health Department. Fundraising Potluck dinners and such which are for “members” and not open to the public are exempt from licensure.

Board unanimously suspends the food and beverage ban for handicapper players during regular games.

Haynes will begin lessons on the 1st and 3rd Mondays and collect \$3⁰⁰ per student with \$1⁰⁰ going to the Bridge Center.

New message on answering machine needed; Sally Angelacos will record one. Angelacos is also as part of the Membership Committee producing an email Club newsletter.

{ **19 June 2008, 5:30PM**}

Report for May showed +\$525.21; bank balance of \$3,970; y-t-d loss of approximately \$3,945 includes costs of moving and remodeling.

Nancy Hammond spoke to the board about a personnell issue.

Kosloski relayed a question/comment from the VanAmburgs about How to keep the noise level down and How to get 'A' pairs to sit EW to balance the field.

Reminders: Club Championship Monday 16 June 7:00PM. ○ NAOP Club Qualifier Thursday 19 June 7:00PM. ○ NAOP Club Qualifier Monday 23 June 7:00PM.

Discussion of efficiency of Library mailing permit noted that at one mailing it is not cost effective, but at two or especially more mailings it is efficient. We used to have four to six mailings per year, but cut back gradually to the current Annual Newsletter (required by Law). Since renewal of the bulk permit is not until 2009, matter deferred to January 2009.

Committee to investigate placement of lessons in local schools.

On the possibility of the Delta/Waverly Club relocating to the Bridge Center, Kosloski discussed it with Chris Adams, but she declined.

{ **14 July 2008, 5:30PM**}

Letter received from Vicki Neiberg by Jerry Stimpfle and Suzanne Baker *re* resignation and buy back of Bridge Center stock. Haynes to telephone Neiberg and only if necessary draft a letter and forward it to Kales for printing on letterhead and mailing.

Letter received from Nancy Hammond about her donation of two books by Bergen to the Library.

The Contract Bridge and Games Library and the Bridge Center of Greater Lansing are two separate entities; a donation to one of them cannot be coupled with a perk in the other.

Kosloski will prepare a description of the Recorder position for our eNewsletter.

Reminders: NAOP Club Qualifier Thursday 10 July 7:00PM. ○ NAOP Club Qualifier Mon 14 July 7:00PM. ○ NAOP Club Qualifier Wed 23 July 7:00PM. *sign up!* ○ Pro/Am Champ Thur 31 July 7:00PM. *Pro-In-The-Pool entry \$2⁰⁰*

Suggestions by Avery (1) no discount for Pro/Am Games; (2) move Pro/Am to Wednesday evening from Thursday. Need poll of players at the Pro/Am on (2).

Kales reported on the Sectional. Bridge Center made a profit of \$273.10 and the Unit lost \$435. The addition of Friday games did not bring any additional revenue to the tournament due to the expense of Director VanCleve, his travel/lodging, and per diem.

Pat Munshaw reported on her talking with Daisy Hayes of the E.L.Seniors bridge group. They play at the Hanna Center and are not interested in relocating their game(s) to the Bridge Center.

Kosloski suggested, and the board agreed, that we need a new pencil sharpener. Baker to bring one from home to see if it is rugged enough for our use.

Unit 195 election results were reported to Kales. Alice Hill was elected Unit 195 Board Member over incumbent Sally Spalsbury; Darryl Haynes was elected Alternate over Mike Kerns.

{ **11 August 2008, 5:30PM**}

Report for July showed approx zero net loss after deposits and withdrawals from the Lansing Sectional.

The bookkeeper requests that the board riterate policy that all game director fees be paid by separate check rather than deducted from the game receipts.

Sally Angelacos submitted to the board a post facto bill for Birdge Center business cards for reimbursement of \$28.92. Expenditure approved.

Kales moved that the board confirm current policy that any expenditure must be approved either by the Board of Directors or the Club Manager beforehand unless necessary for the smooth running of one of our duplicate games. Unanimously confirmed.

Reminders: NAOP Club Qualifier Thursday 14 August 7:00PM. ◦ NAOP Club Qualifier Monday 18 August 7:00PM. ◦ NAOP Club Qualifier Wednesday 27 August 7:00PM. *sign up!*

Stimpfle reported for the Membership Promotion Committee. Fliers for lessons are being prepared. Business Cards for the Bridge Center have been ordered. Other ideas are being worked on. Computer needs to be set up for player use in the Library; Kales and Sheedy to so do.

Kales reported on the Unit 195 Board meeting in Grand Rapids. Actions of note... ◦ Subsidies for travel to/from board meetings was raised from 0.25/mile to 0.35/mile. ◦ Unit will be getting an insurance policy to cover meals served at Unit tournaments. ◦ The Unit shall [continue to] reimburse the cost of ACBL Teacher Accreditation Course to Unit 195 members who wish to [take them].

Pro/Am to move to fifth Wednesday in October [to avoid] interfering with the flighted Thursday evening game; entry fee for active member Pros will remain \$1⁰⁰.

Congratulations to Jan Etienne who has become a Life Master! We need to schedule a *Bring-a-Dish* Party for her. Check with her about Sept 8th or 15th. [She later selected Monday August 25th]

The Lansing Regional [is] in 2010; need to establish appropriate committees for the Regional. Gene Kales and Alice Hill are Chairmen of the Tournament.

IRS 1099 forms info should be routinely made available to the Board in monthly bookkeeper reports.

The Bridge Center has gotten behind in filing some tax reports on the Lansing personal property tax. The bookkeeper will see about having our "property" fully depreciated.

October is Club Appreciation Month; special games need to be scheduled. Kales would appreciate help in doing the Calendar for the entire upcoming year as soon as the renewal materials arrive with 2009 Special Events dates.

{ **15 September 2008, 5:30PM**}

Report for August showed a net loss of \$268, with a bank balance of \$4,070.

Sally Angelacos is making nametags for Lansing players in District NAOP Final.

Reminders: Instant Matchpoint Game Thurs 11 August 7:00PM, entry \$7⁰⁰ ea.
o Club Championship Thursday 18 September 7:00PM. o Club Championship Monday September 22nd 7:00PM. o Next Pro/Am will be Wed October 29th with active Pro entry \$1⁰⁰.

Sally Angelacos requested that a rug be purchased for kitchenette; consensus is to decline. Angelacos also suggested a "Cleanup Crew" be arranged for the storage room. Board agrees this is an excellent idea and will schedule it.

Special Games scheduled for Club Appreciation in October and Holidays in December: o Thu Oct 9th Club App Pairs, o Fri Oct 10th Club App Teams "8 Is Enough" format, o Mon Oct 13th Club App Pairs, o Wed Oct 22nd Club App Teams "8 Is Enough" format, o Wed Oct 29th Club App Pairs Pro/Am format.
o S.T.A.C. Dec 8th - 13th
o Mon Holiday Party Dec 15th 6:00PM, o Thu Holiday Party Dec 18th 6:00PM, o Fri Holiday Party Dec 19th 6:00PM, with prizes and gift drawings. o Wed New Year's Eve Party Dec 31st.

The VanAmburgs suggested other directors get training on how to process the ACBL Monthly Report as they are soon to go south for the winter. George has also prepared a backup diskette for use after each game had been DBADDED.

Dave Sheedy and George VanAmburg are soon to replace our old computer with a newer model which runs in Windows instead of DOS.

There is good need to have the Library computerized so that we can know what we have; get Librarian Lucy Clark involved. There should be another computer available in the Library Room.

Helen VanAmburg has prepared a list of which forms are due to be filed when; She will send Secretary Kales a copy.

Jackie Oman complained about the 6½ table Mitchell with a four board sit out. Kales showed VanAmburg where the Howell cards he made for a 6½ table 24 Board movement were kept.

{ **13 October 2008, 5:30PM**}

Financial Report for September delayed.

Alice Hill and Kales will arrange a date for another computer training session.

VanAmburgs mentioned that when Thursday is not flighted separately that some grumbling was heard from the NonLMs.

Ken relayed a recent occurrence on Monday when Dave Sheedy answered the phone and a player needed a partner. He was not directing and the Director ended up not partnering with the player who called but with his regular partner. Discussion ensued.

Reminders: Club Appreciation Pairs Game Thurs 9 October 7:00PM. ◦ Club Appreciation Pairs Game Mon 13 October 7:00PM. ◦ Club Appreciation Team Game Fri 10 October 7:00PM. ◦ Club Appreciation Team Game Wed 22 October 7:00PM. ◦ Next Pro/Am will be Wed October 29th with active Pro entry \$1⁰⁰.

This will be a special Club Appreciation Game, too.

◦ District S.T.A.C is the week of December 8th - 13th.

Add to annual agenda: Publication of Dues paid Members.

Board policy is that foreign currency is not to be taken for entry fee payments, adopted unanimously.

Financial committee is getting personal property tax, \$402.19 for 2008, issues straightened out. Annual Michigan Reports for 2007 and 2008 were filed for \$20 ea. Find out IRS filing status.

{ **10 November 2008, 5:30PM**}

Financial Report for September showed a net of -\$40; October needs to be recalculated.

Communications included: Suggestion that we charge for coffee and tea and hot chocolate. Consensus of the Board is not to begin charging. Suggestion that everybody take turns bringing snack items. Consensus of Board is that this may be recommended but is unenforcible. Suggestion that 'everyone needs to leave their nasty attitudes at the door and have more fun.' Board feels this is a most worthy goal.

Reminders: NonLM Sectional Sat 15 November 1:00PM/ dinner / 6:00PM. ◦ ACBL-wide Charity Game Monday November 24 7:00PM. ◦ District S.T.A.C is the week of December 8th - 13th. ◦ Mon Holiday Party Dec 15th 6:00PM, ◦ Thurs Holiday Party Dec 18th 6:00PM, ◦ Fri Holiday Party Dec 19th 6:00PM, with prizes and gift drawings. ◦ Wed December 31 New Year's Eve Party and Game.

◦ 5.a. Kales reported that for the NonLM Sectional he farmed out a couple of dishes, had some pizza delivered, and only had to make two simple veggies and the salad. Everybody seemed to accept this compromise fare.

