

# ORLANDO REPORT

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NOW THAT I' OFFICIALLY RETIRED FROM THE ACBL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT THROUGHOUT MY YEARS AS YOUR DISTRICT 16 REPRESENTATIVE. FROM THE FIRST DAY I WAS ELECTED TO THE BOARD, THROUGH THE YEAR I SERVED AS PRESIDENT, AND NOW IN MY RETIREMENT. I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN HONORED BY YOUR FRIENDSHIP AND TRUST. OUR DISTRICT IS ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL IN THE ACBL, AND IT WILL CONTINUE TO BE OUTSTANDING UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PAUL CUENO. WE ALL WISH HIM THE VERY BEST IN THE YEARS TO COME.

Orlando was a very scenic location for a National. Attendance was about 10,500 tables which was a good number but about 750 below estimate. I think the reasons for this were the increased fees to play and the cost at the site.

Eddie Wold was honored as the Honorary Member of the Year for 2017. It is one of the ACBL's highest honors, presented to a member who has made significant contributions to the game over a long period.

Congratulations to Nancy Strohmer who was elected to the ACBL's Charity Foundation Board.

Bob Heller from Tennessee was elected President for 2017.

Through a series of budget cuts, fee increases and the new BBO relationship, the ACBL will report positive income and cash flow for 2016. The preliminary budget for 2017 shows continued positive income.

The Board approved an increase in Technology funding of \$300,000 in 2017 for the ACBL Score replacement project which we hope will be finished by mid-2018.

The Board adopted a new membership fee structure for 2017 and beyond. Member rates will stay at \$39/year provided members renew for 3 years. If you renew for 1 year, the rate will be \$49/year. New member rates will also have a 3-year option at \$29/year or 1 year for \$39. The ACBL spends over \$85,000/year mailing membership renewal notices and the new structure is an opportunity to reduce that cost significantly

The ACBL Educational Foundation adopted a new set of Byelaws which change the voting membership of the Foundation from the ACBL Board of Directors to the Trustees of the foundation. Also changed was an increase in the maximum number of Trustees from 9 to 24. The changes were recommended by a task force that believes the new structure will enable the foundation to raise significant funds from donors over the next several years.

Thank you, thank you for all the support I have received over the last 24 years.

**Dan Morse**