

### A warm but freezing reunion ....

Winter takes forever in Europe this year, so we felt that we should give Nikkie –coming all the way from sunny South Africa- a proper welcome with a nice snow walk in the Swiss mountain village of Villars. Veerle was there at the end of her family skiing holidays and ...a nice reunion of the 5 boardmembers soon evolved into a good old snowball fight!

The same evening we enjoyed a delicious raclette, and off we went to Nicole's beautiful and cosy house in Paudex.



#### 1. WELCOME BY DANIELLE

It was difficult to concentrate with that amazing view on Lake Léman from our boardmeeting room, but Danielle managed to get our attention and at 9.25h the meeting could start. Danielle welcomed us by expressing her hope for a productive, open minded and structured board meeting.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES BM 1 & 2

No matters arose from the previous minutes. The minutes were signed by all board members.

#### 3. REPORTS BOARDMEMBERS

The boardmembers sent in their half year reports end november 2009, but some additions were made :

**Veerle** : tells about the fact she was contacted by a former circler (Helen Tortoiseshell) from LC Hong Kong who showed interest to start Agora there. She sent the information pamphlet to Helen. Nikkie took over this contact from there as extension officer.

**Dominique** : went to the french comitee at the Charter of Hyères and spoke about Agora being an international platform for both Agora and Tangent members.

**Nicole** informs us that she installed the book keeping program on her computer, which works fantastic.

#### 4. PREPARATION ACI CONFERENCE TALINN

##### a. Newly adapted rules

As was stated in the previous boardmeeting, Danielle and Veerle worked on the existing rules. They made a comparative study where it is clear which rules were refined, which were added, which were extended.

The whole board worked intensively on these print-outs for 4 hours, after which a final draft was ready. Veerle will make a final edition to send out to the National Boards by the end of february.

The National Boards will be asked to read them through and send us eventual remarks and/or suggestions. The final rules will then be voted on –en block- on the ACI AGM in Talinn.

#### ACI Board 2009-2010

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b. Applications for hosting the next ACI conferences

- **2011 ACI Conference** : an unofficial application from Agora Club Italy. They are very interested to organise the meeting, but are focusing on the charters of Bologna and Merano first. Once the NB is installed, they will make it official.
- **2012 ACI Conference** : an OFFICIAL application from Agora Club Tangent Germany. The location for the conference would be Hamburg.

c. Modernised new logo and banner of ACI

Veerle worked with a designer friend on a modern and up-to-date logo and banner for ACI. It was agreed that the word "international" should be written with a capital i.

The boardmembers were very enthusiastic about the new look.

Both banner and logo were approved. It was agreed that they will be presented on the ACI meeting in Talinn.

Of course we will treasure the former flag, and will always hang this flag during official international meetings.

d. Other items

- AC Tangent Germany proposed its logo (incorporating the Gingko Biloba leaf). We all agreed it looks terrific. The logo was approved. We have not yet received the design of the banner.
- The Board agreed that in future Tangent countries should include the words "ACI" or "Member of ACI" in their logo. Veerle will add this in the guidelines
- ACI Newsletter : a lot of positive reactions from the member countries. They feel connected with ACI and well informed.
- Veerle will write a guideline to explain the single transferable voting system (for voting if more 3 candidates/proposals etc , or more).
- Veerle will have to adapt the guidelines according to the alterations in the rules. For instance : add affiliation fee in guidelines, 7.12 about penalty, etc

## 5. INTERNATIONAL CHARTERS

Danielle made the Charter document for AC Italy i.f.

It was decided to add the country's logo on each charter document. Dominique proposes to add Gingko Biloba leafs. She will send an example to Danielle.

### AC ISRAEL i.f.

The constitution of AC Israel i.f. was read and Nikkie will inform AC Israel i.f. of the following remarks :

- Constitution : add "which means Service and Tolerance"
- Some of the other small remarks will be put in red and sent back to Yifat.
- Ask the names of the members of the Board and of the clubmembers
- Get some clarification on which DAYS the events take place (Friday, Saturday, Sunday?)

Danielle checks 7.1 with constitutions of other countries.

Nikkie will send the adapted constitution to the ACI boardmembers from the moment it is finalised.

### AC ITALY : installation of the National Board

- We received the National rules and read them through. Danielle will inform AC Italy that the rules have been approved.
- Charters Bologna and Merano : the invitations and registration forms have been sent out.

## **AC ZAMBIA i.f.**

- We have not yet received the constitution of AC Zambia i.f.. Nikkie will remind Sylvia.
- The logo of AC Zambia i.f. has been approved by the board. Veerle will inform them of the approval.
- Nikkie will represent Godmother Club AC Lokeren at the charter. Veerle hands over the AC Lokeren banner and will write and send a speech to Nikkie, to be read out during the Charter.

## **6. WEBSITE**

- The new website has proven to be a good instrument, but it has not reached its full potential.
- Nikkie has sent out an appeal for more articles. Nikkie will collect these articles and Veerle will add pictures where possible
- All the newsletters are on the website. The next newsletter (n°6) will be written by Nikkie.
- The webmaster asked to update the website only twice per month.
- Veerle will ask the webmaster to a subtitle under "events" for "invitations" : charter invitations, national AGM's etc
- **PROPOSAL FROM AC ESTONIA**  
Lana Keller proposed that each country could write a presentation of their country (people, habits, etc). These presentations could be put on the website. The ACI Board likes this idea. Nikkie will ask the countries for their presentation.

## **7. EXTENSION**

Extension Officer Nikkie gives her report :

### **TO BE FOLLOWED UP**

- **HONG KONG**  
Nikkie followed up the contact Veerle had, and was in contact with Helen Tortoiseshell, former Circler in Hong Kong. Helen wrote a nice letter which Nikkie reads out : There is definitely interest in Hong Kong, but uptill now they do not have the required number of members (10) to start the first club.
- **AUSTRALIA**  
Nikkie will try to contact former Circle members of Australia to start up Agora. Danielle and Dominique will look up the names of the contacts they have in Australia and send these contacts to Nikkie for follow up.
- **ICELAND**  
Dagny Leifsdottir (former LCI treasurer) is working hard to start off Agora in Iceland. Danielle is in close contact with her.
- **AUSTRIA**  
The girls from Klagenfurt have shown interest. Danielle is in close contact.
- **MOROCCO**  
Veerle has been in contact with Mimi Zaz from LC Casablanca. There is definitely interest from the girls from Casablanca and Rabat, but communication is slow.

### **DEFINATE CHARTERS**

- **POLAND**  
Have made it official : they will charter with 2 clubs (Gdansk and Slupsk) and form their National Board during those charters. No definite Charter date yet. (2011)
- **USA (Seattle)**  
Kelly Geisler, Nikkie's niece, is having regular meetings with the girls from Seattle.  
No definite Charter date yet.

## A well deserved break!

At this point we decided to close the meeting for today. We enjoyed a wonderful "fondue de Bresse" in Nicole's "carnotzet", which is a room in the cellar of lots of Swiss houses, used especially for raclettes and fondues.



## 8. TRAVEL AND FINANCES

### TRAVEL

DATE	EVENT	Official representation by	Representation on own account by
6/3/2010	Charter AC Toulouse (FR)		Dominique
13/3/2010	Charter AC Bologna + installation National Board AC Italy	Danielle	
10/4/2010	Charter AC Merano	Danielle	
17/4/2010	Charter AC Tongeren (B)		Danielle + Veerle
30/4-2/5/2010	AGM AC Brasov in Romania + meeting with new potential clubs	Danielle	
22/5/2010	Charter AC Lusaka 1 in Zambia	Danielle +Nikkie	
29/5/2010	Charter AC Genk (B)		Veerle
29/5/2010	National AGM AC South Africa	Danielle	
5/6/2010	National AGM AC The Netherlands	Veerle	
5/6/2010	National AGM AC France	Danielle	
26/6/2010	National AGM AC Belgium		Danielle + Veerle
28/8/2010	International AGM LCI in Bruges-Belgium	Danielle	Veerle

- Representation will be paid back for certain visits. In these cases the flight and the price of one meal will be paid by ACI.
- Danielle explains that she worked hard towards the 2 Italian Charters and motivated the girls to install their National Board. On the other hand she promised the members of these 2 clubs to be present at their charters. She therefor will represent the ACI board at both charters.
- Danielle has made an estimate of all travel costs and we are well within budget.

### FINANCES

Every boardmembers hands over her costs to Nicole. Nicole asks the accountnumbers, IBAN and SWIFT codes.

- The proceeds of the tombola on the ACI AGM (Bruges) and the sale of Daniëlle's year Pin, will go to the international service project in Onna (Italy)
- Danielle will officially hand over a imitation cheque of 1000€ from Agora Club International at the charter of AC Bologna, but Nicole will already transfer the money to the project.
- Veerle will make a voucher of 200€ to be handed over to Ivana Cantelli Zangheri (from AC. Cesena/Italy), winner of the tombola of the ACI conference in Bruges

## 9. SHOP AND REGALIA

### SHOP

ITEM	QUANTITY	COST in €	TOTAL	SELL in €
ACI pins	117	1.37	160.29	5.00
Year pin : Danielle	110	0.77	103.95	5.00
Nikkie	10			
Dominique	15			
Banners	10 (as handouts)	6.84	68.40	
Hankershiefs	1	2.00	2.00	2.00
Silver necklace	1	35.00	35.00	49.00
Silver earrings	1 pair	25.00	25.00	32.00
T-shirts	4	4.00	16.00	4.00
Evening bags	3	12.00	36.00	12.00
belts	2	2.00	4.00	2.00
pen	51	2.56	130.56	7.00
Agora umbrella (new)	10	5.40	54.00	10.00
Bath towels	7	8.00	56.00	15.00
Set 2 Guest towels	1	8.40	8.40	15.00
TOTAL VALUE OF SHOP :			699.60 €	

### REGALIA

- Danielle hands over the name bars for the chains of office to the ACI Board members
- Veerle will work on a design for the international president's jewel. It should clearly incorporate the globe and be produced in multicolour.
- We will order 10 plaques for the National chairman's jewel, all of which will be engraved with "AGORA CLUB". 1 will be engraved with Lusaka, 1 with Merkaz, 1 with Italy and 1 with Israel.
- The countries can order more plaques (for the rest of the board) at 30€ p/piece without shipping costs and without the ribbon.
- At a Charter of a new country, ACI provides the jewel of the N° 1 Club and the jewel for the installation of the National Board.
- Danielle hands over 10 of her year pins to Nicole and 15 of her year pins to Dominique

## 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- Veerle will send out felicitations to the local charters and to the AGM's in due time.
- Dominique signs the congratulation cards (the others already signed on the 1<sup>st</sup> BM)
- Nicole and Veerle send in their applications for candidacy board 2010-2011 in due time

## 11. BOARD MEETINGS

Nikkie informs us that because of the world cup football in South Africa, the prices for flights have tripled.

To save an expensive trip from Nikkie to the next boardmeeting, the board decides that Danielle and Nikkie will have a pre-meeting when they are together for the Charter of AC Zambia and the National AGM of AC South Africa. They will then send a report to the other board members.

The board will discuss the necessary via internet and/or Skype. To install Skype please go to [www.skype.com](http://www.skype.com) and follow the steps.

Skype addresses

- Danielle : daniellegardin
- Nikkie : nicola.grewar
- Veerle : veerle.de.jonge
- Dominique : evangeline1210

## 2009-2010

- Boardmeeting 4 : pre-meeting Danielle and Nikkie . They will work out the budgets and the goals for 2010-2011 at the Zambia Charter and at the AGM of South Africa. They will make a report of this meeting so that the other Board members can discuss all items via internet or Skype during the month of may/june.
- Boardmeeting 5 : evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> of september, 29, 30 september 2010 in Talinn

## 2010-2011

- Boardmeeting 1 : Sunday 3 october 2010 in Talinn
- Boardmeeting 2 : Monday and Tuesday 4,5 october 2010

For the Boardmeetings in Talinn : each boardmember looks into the cheapest ways for their flights and informs the others of the time schedule.

Nikkie plans to come to Brussels first and then fly through to Talinn with Danielle and Veerle

## 12. TO DO - TO DO - TO DO - TO DO - TO DO - TO DO - TO DO - TO DO - TO DO

WHO ?	WHAT ?
DANIELLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- inform AC Tangent Germany that their logo was approved (pin)</li><li>- check 7.1 in the constitution of AC Israel i.f. with the other countries' constitution</li><li>- add logo on charter document of AC Italy.</li><li>- add Gingko biloba leafs (Dominique)</li><li>- Send name of contact in Australia to Nikkie</li><li>- Follow up Austria and Austria as potential Agora Countries</li><li>- Follow up the charter preparations of Poland</li><li>- hand over a imitation cheque of 1000€ to the Onna project at the Bologna Charter</li><li>- prepare 4<sup>th</sup> per-boardmeeting, to be held in conjunction with Charter Zambia and AGM South Africa</li></ul>
NIKKIE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- inform AC Israel i.f. of some alterations in their constitution, and ask them for clarification icw the days of the charter</li><li>- will send the finalised constitution to the rest of the board</li><li>- ask AC Zambia i.f. for their constitution</li><li>- will represent AC Lokeren as Godmother at the AC Zambia charter</li><li>- write newsletter N° 6 – to be sent out by half march 2010</li><li>- follow up Hong Kong, Australia, Poland and Seattle</li><li>- Ask countries to write a presentation of their country. Put these presentations on the website</li><li>- have a 4<sup>th</sup> per-boardmeeting, to be held in conjunction with Charter Zambia and AGM South Africa</li><li>- make report of the pre-boardmeeting and send to other boardmembers</li><li>- write rule 7.16</li></ul>
VEERLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- make a final edition of the comparative study of the rules and send this document out to the national boards by the end of february for eventual feed back/ remarks/ suggestions</li><li>- adapt guidelines to new rules</li><li>- add in guidelines that in future, tangent countries joining ACI will have to incorporate (next to the Gingko Biloba leaf) the words : "member of A.C.I."</li><li>- work on a new design for the ACI President's jewel</li><li>- send example of capitation fee form AC Belgium to Nicole</li><li>- inform AC Zambia i.f. that logo has been approved</li><li>- make guideline which explains the single transferable voting system</li><li>- ask president of AC Lokeren for a speech to be read at charter AC Zambia</li><li>- contact Mimi Zaz from LC Morocco and ask for their plans to start Agora</li><li>- make voucher of 200€ for the winner of the tombola</li><li>- ask the webmaster to add a button under "events namely "invitations" (charters, national AGM's etc</li><li>- send out wishing cards for local and national charters and national AGM's in due time</li><li>- send in application for candidacy Secretary 2010-2011</li></ul>
NICOLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- make a capitation fee form</li><li>- Transfer 1000€ to the international project in Onna – Italy</li><li>- send in application for candidacy Treasurer 2010-2011</li><li>- book 3 double rooms ACI Conference Talinn</li></ul>
DOMINIQUE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- send design of charter document with Gingko Biloba leafs to Danielle</li><li>- Send name of contact in Australia to Nikkie</li><li>- Find someone to share your room with in Talinn</li></ul>

### 13. DID YOU KNOW?

- That we officially baptised the 2009-2010 Board as "the Snowboard"?
- That ooooh yes : even if we're at the Agora age, we can still have a nice snowball fight!
- That Nicole has a great friend Lucienne who is also a terrific cook : she made sure the board did not starve and provided us with delicious guiche, salad and a yummy chocolate desert.
- That the board thinks it is unfair that everything delicious is "10 seconds on the lips, but 10 years on the hips" !
- That Veerle absolutely fell in love with Nicole's wine cellar : she will incorporate a similar one in her next interior design!
- That Nicole as from now is called "mama citron"
- That this Board is very spiritual
- That Dominique thought us that "a gentleman is the one who uses sugar tongs, even when he is alone" !
- That we officially declared Nicole's house a PARTY house!



The SNOWBOARD !!

The 3<sup>rd</sup> boardmeeting 2010 closes on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> of february at 11 am.