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THE AMERICAN
GO
ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REPORT
1999 - 2000



THE AMERICAN GO ASSOCIATION
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WHAT IS THE AMERICAN GO ASSOCIATION?

The American Go Association is the national organization of U.S. go players, cooperating with similar national organizations around the world.

We:

- ❖ Publish *The American Go Journal*
- ❖ Maintain a computerized rating system
- ❖ Sanction and promote AGA-rated tournaments
- ❖ Organize the U.S. Go Congress, the U.S. Open and qualifying tournaments for international competition
- ❖ Maintain a Web site and organize discussion groups, mentoring programs and teaching ladders
- ❖ Support professional players with tournaments, teaching opportunities and other activities
- ❖ Work to develop a strong national network of chapters
- ❖ Promote go and enhance public awareness
- ❖ Develop projects to strengthen the U.S. go-playing community

The AGA is working to let more people know about this wonderful game and to

1999: A YEAR OF GROWTH

by Roy Laird, AGA President

As we enter the new millennium, the AGA is larger and stronger than ever. 1999 was a year of tremendous growth and development. With the largest US Go Congress ever, a record number of tournaments and workshops, and a national school-based network that taught almost 5000 American children to play go, we finished the year with more Full Members month after month than ever before. We also grew in other important categories, including donors who support and nourish the AGA's many member activities. Numerous outreach and development projects are underway, with the promise of even more on the horizon.

Increased public exposure to go gives cause for optimism in the future. In addition to the usual number of regional and national event-related and human-interest articles, TV shows such as Ally McBeal and JAG have utilized go to develop characters who have intellectual heft. The success of the award-winning film Pi has also brought go into the public eye. We have even heard rumors that go has appeared in the pages of youth-celebrity magazines and may be emerging as a cool pastime for young stars who don't want to be known as "airheads!"

More and more American go players are taking the game to schools in their communities, in after-school programs and even during the school day, as part of the curriculum. With AGA support, more than 5000 American children learned to play go in 1999. To keep them involved, AGA organizers have developed a cyber-community of young players on the Internet, with a monthly "CyberCamp," an online handicap tournament and the Michael Redmond Cup, which selects the US representatives for the World Youth Championship. More plans are in the works to develop a strong national network of young go players. (The first issue of I Go for Go, a youth newsletter, came out earlier this year.)

Now is the time to take advantage of the rising tide of energy and public awareness of go. We have the resources to do it. We are looking for dreamers who, in the words of Robert Kennedy, are "willing to pay the price to make their dreams come true." If you

have the time and energy to devote to a pet project, the AGA may have the resources to support your efforts.

It seems too soon to be nearing the end of my first full term as President, but as I look back I am proud of what we have achieved. The AGA is now a fully recognized tax-exempt 501c4 corporation. Tax liabilities and other deficiencies have been eliminated. In addition, capable officers, organizers and other volunteers have done a great deal of time-consuming work behind the scenes. Hats off to all for the tremendous amount of work we have accomplished in the past year!

I am honored to have been nominated to serve another term as President. I look forward to focusing on the priorities that I think are important — Chapter and member support, fiscal responsibility and restraint, and growth and development. I look forward to the day when we have finally made "go" a household word in the US. I mean, as a noun. . . .

Roy Laird
President
June 26, 2000

TOURNAMENTS AND EVENTS

Our schedule of local and regional tournaments and events has grown. Organizers reported the results of more than sixty tournaments to the AGA rating system. Almost every weekend someone is conducting a go-related event somewhere in the US. A few especially notable events included:

1999 Us Go Congress: The centerpiece of the yearly go schedule was the largest ever last year. Conducted at San Francisco State University July 29 - August 8th, the event inspired San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown to proclaim “Go Congress Week in San Francisco.” Drawing on a strong local community of players and the area’s many attractions, organizers Mike Bull and Ernest Brown and their local team put together an event so appealing that it attracted over 280 players for the US Open alone. It is likely that nearly 500 people passed through the site. Prominent events included **The US Open**, co-directed by Sam Zimmerman and Chuck Robbins, using the AGA’s new **GoPair** pairing software by Chuck Robbins. GoPair not only pairs participants using any of a variety of pairing format, but automatically prepares results for submission to the AGA rating system. Other notable Congress events were **The Tenth North American Ing Cup** featuring North America’s sixteen strongest amateurs and directed by Reid Augustin; **The North American Pairs Championship**, directed as always by Don Wiener; and other annual Congress events such as **the self-paired handicap tournament**, the **lightning tournament**, “**crazy go**” night, small-board tournaments and team events.

Children were especially welcomed at this year’s Congress, with a special weekly “Mini-Congress” organized by Noné Redmond and Steve Burrall. Children had their own playing area, and dozens of them congregated there from morning to night. A week-long children’s lectures series featuring professionals players was especially popular. Pizza parties and special events like “relay go” and a daily problem contest added to the fun.

The Fifth North American Masters Tournament This is the only professional go tournament in the West, and the only one in the world conducted on the Internet. Co-Founder and Director Chen-dao Lin

produced the event with the able and experienced assistance of Don Wiener, Jeff Shaevel, Mike Bull and Chuck Robbins. Defending Masters Champion Zhu-jiu Jiang 9-Dan, who became an American citizen in early 2000, faced his wife, Nai-wei Rui. She lost, but went on to make go history earlier this year, becoming the first woman ever to win a major professional tournament when she won the Korean Kukso tournament. (She and her husband have been granted special permission to play in Korean professional tournaments as guests.)

In the 2000 Masters Tournament, two distinguished amateurs - the winners of the North American Ing Cup and the US Open Champion - were permitted to join the field. To add to the excitement, they both made it through the preliminaries to the Challenger Round.

Youth Activities: More than forty children learned go and had fun at **The Second Summer Youth Go Camp** under the direction of Founder/Director Susan Weir. Pro 1-Dan Janice Kim taught the children throughout the week, with help from Michael Samuel, Bruce Price and Steve Burrall. (An entertaining and inspiring video is now available from Mopac Media, 14806 Endicott Drive, Austin, TX 78728-4412, for \$20.) The 2000 Camp is sold out and includes children from Japan and China. Participants stay in touch throughout the year at the monthly online “**Cybercamp**”, by attending the midyear **Go Camp Reunion**, and some certainly meet across the “virtual goban” on the Internet in the AGA’s special youth tournaments, **The Redmond Cup** and **The Redmond Handicap Tournament**.

The Thirteenth North American Fujitsu Qualifying Tournament This year’s tournament was conducted in Seattle by Director Chris Kirschner, who managed to both restore the original 16-player format (which had been cut to twelve for financial reasons) and to carry over a surplus to next year.

Pro Workshops: The popularity of these seminars continues to grow. Several local groups hosted professionals for long weekends of fun and instruction. With an emphasis on improvement, rather than victory, these workshops take on a different feel, especially appealing to serious players who don’t care for the competitive aspects of tournaments.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by John Goon, AGA Membership Secretary

Membership Growth

Total membership, as of February 28, 2000, consisted of 1138 full members, 158 limited members, 106 complimentary memberships, 41 sponsors, 58 sustainers, 13 life members, and 4 others, for a total membership of 1518. As of December 31, 1999, the total number of chapters was 60.

Table 1 provides summary membership information from the years 1985 to 1991/2. The 1990 to 1992 figures were identified as preliminary. I do not have those final figures. For rough comparison, Table 2 provides the latest statistics from the AGA database. Note that maximum figures for the year are used here.

Table 1 compares average membership with that of the previous year. In Table 2, maximum figures for the year are used to simplify the calculation process.

Table 1 - 1985-1992 Membership Growth by Category
(Years prior to 90/91 show final figures; 90/91 & 91/92 are preliminary)

Type	1985/6	1986/7	1987/8	1988/9	1989/90	1990/1	1991/2
Full	623	730	798	879	890	876	1010
Limited	146	213	267	287	332	383	453
Compli	41	46	45	72	87	91	85
TOTAL	810	989	1110	1247	1309	1350	1548
Sponsors	Incl. in Full	32					
Sustainers	Incl. in Full	22					
Life	Incl. in Full	5					
Others	Incl. in Full	4					
Chapters	40	47	47	59	61	49	51
Member Revenue	14,390	17,075	18,705	23,675	26,045	25,530	29,300

Table 2 - 1993-1999 Membership Growth by Category

Type-Max	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00
Full	***	***	924	974	1043	1127	1100	1138
Limited	***	***	406	580	471	316	281	171
Complimentary Sponsors (\$100-499)	***	***	99	100	100	105	107	107
Sustainers (\$50-99) Life (\$1000)	***	***	14	27	43	53	69	68
Fee-Paying Rated Player*	***	***	8	8	8	9	11	13
Others	***	***	***	10	130	94	76	81
TOTAL	***	***	1474	1724	1823	1739	1685	1625
Chapters (Dec 31)	***	***	34	60	65	69	60	60
New Members**	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	384
Youth Members	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	110
Member Revenue	***	35,054	24,528	31,710	31,270	31,925	33,549	42,040

*In 1996 the AGA created a rating fee so that non-members could play in AGA tournaments. Many Limited Members took this option instead.

**This year we began calculating how many new members signed up during the year, as part of our effort to retain more new members.

*** Not Available.

The gross total of members peaked in the mid-'90's, but in crucial categories such as Full Members and Sponsor/Sustainers we are at an all-time high. A bright future of growth and development seems possible, and the AGA is more ready than ever to meet that challenge. But now is not the time to rest on our laurels. We must go forward with our efforts to bring go into the mainstream of life in our communities.

Membership and Development Activities in 1999

Ongoing Membership Retention: We mail renewal reminders to everyone a month before, the month of and for two months after a member's expiration date. We are also working on a way to conduct renewal campaigns by e-mail and telephone.

Membership Outreach Committee: This active new committee launched a number of renewal and recruitment activities this year, including a Former Member Survey and an eBay Pilot Project. Jean DeMaiffe and David Whiteside have made this long-constituted committee a reality.

Geographic Distribution of Membership

Our membership is widely, but not evenly, distributed around the country. Not counting chapters and complimentary memberships, we have 324 (down from 337) players in the Western region, 410 (down slightly from 414) in the Central region, 679 (up from 627) in the Eastern Region, and 117 (down slightly from 119) overseas members (including 75 comps). We now have members in 48 of the 50 states.

State	Members	State	Members	State	Members
AK	4	LA	6	OK	7
AL	2	MA	69	OR	65
AR	2	MD	68	PA	55
AZ	14	ME	5	Puerto Rico	1
CA	241	MI	71	RI	3
CO	45	MN	32	SC	2
CT	15	MO	13	SD	1
DC	11	MS	0	TN	7
DE	7	MT	2	TX	107
FL	19	NC	31	UT	6
GA	10	ND	1	VA	59
HI	8	NE	4	VI	1
IA	2	NH	21	VT	11
ID	1	NJ	70	WA	53
IL	70	NM	16	WI	10
IN	13	NV	4	WV	2
KS	6	NY	128	WY	0
KY	4	OH	28	INT'L	66

Membership Services: The influx of new volunteers was significant this year. Their contributions helped to ease the workload immeasurably and enabled the new start of projects that would otherwise have remained dormant. Hopefully, their influence will be a long-lasting one, and this bodes well for the future. New and/or renewing members are sent a membership card with a cover letter within a few weeks of joining/renewing. The cover letter lists a number of AGA materials that members can order free or at a nominal charge; it also asks members to volunteer their services in various areas. A packet of all the available materials is offered for a nominal

fee.

Sustainer/Sponsor/Life Program: There has been significant growth in these categories. We currently have 68 sustainers (\$50-99) and 42 sponsors (\$100-499). The Life Memberships are doing well with 13 members. Not surprisingly, sustainers and sponsors are also among our most active organizers.

New AGA Brochure: 5000 single-sheet AGA pamphlets were published in 1999. They were broadly distributed to members, chapters, and vendors. A second printing is planned for summer 2000. Yutopian and IshiGames also agreed to include copies of the AGA pamphlet with their equipment shipments. With luck, this will broadcast the AGA to a much wider potential market.

New AGA Starter Sets: Over the past few years, AGA organizers have also distributed 5000 of these durable and attractive 9x9 sets for the serious beginners. 1000 new, more cost-effective sets hit the warehouse in May, and most of them are still available for the serious organizer to distribute to serious students.

“The Great Go Spiel”: Boston-based organizer and author Peter Shotwell continued to develop his Bookstore Tour with the creation of a multiple-diskette package for go organizers. The package offers a template for arranging go demonstrations at your local major bookstore.

Cuban Goodwill Friendship Tournament: Peter Shotwell will take a group of about twenty American go players to meet a group of Cuban players in a “Friendship Go Match” in Havana in late July. This should give go and the AGA a tremendous boost in the Caribbean basin area.

Local Demonstrations: The influence of a go promotional event can extend far beyond local boundaries. For example, in April 1999, the Washington DC area clubs taught go to students, teachers, and parents from across the nation at the Japan Bowl, a Japan American Society sponsored language competition. The following week, they operated a go booth at the National Cherry Blossom Festival that attracted many out-of-town visitors. The opportunities are out there.

Game Company Feedback Project: Although high-quality playing equipment is imported by several US vendors, other large commercial

game companies manufacture their own equipment, often of lesser quality. San Francisco Bay Area member Jean DeMaiffe initiated contact with several of these companies this year to provide feedback on user interests. This is still a work in progress, but these companies are now aware of the AGA presence.

Former Members Survey: David Whiteside and Jean DeMaiffe conducted an e-mail survey of former AGA members last summer. They contacted people whose memberships had expired within the past two years to learn what the organization could do to encourage their return. These former members typically appreciated the chance to provide helpful feedback.

eBay Outreach Project: Hartford, CT-based organizer Kirby Huget was looking at eBay one night and discovered that several sellers had listed go-related paraphernalia. Since the addresses of bidders are publicly available, he thought, what about sending them a little message. "Hi. You like go? Check out our Web site." With the help of Ms. DeMaiffe, Kirby's idea became a reality. We obtained about 60 names in 30 days and sent a brief letter of introduction to each. Several replies came back, and they were all positive.

Publicity: Articles about go appeared in the LA Times, the Washington Post and various regional newspapers. AGJ Columnist and AGA Chapter Services Coordinator Bill Cobb published an article about the spiritual side of go in the Buddhist quarterly Tricycle. A classified ad about go in the following issue yielded a modest response. National Public Radio aired a short piece on go. An integrated plan to promote regional or national media publicity could be worth consideration. In the meantime, we remind local organizers and Chapters to fully explore the media options in their area.

Internet Go Servers: The Internet Go Server, No Name Go Server, and similar client-reliant servers have become the favored domain of serious players. They attract the strongest competition. IGS dominates, with 400 to 500 players online at a time, from rank beginner to top professional — sometimes traveling incognito! But for someone who is new to go, there are other, more accessible, more sociable sites to play go. The relatively new sites at Yahoo! and MSN Gaming Zone are attracting new go players in droves. Just as important, these sites are becoming self-sufficient. These are prime

areas to make new players aware of the AGA, and we need a stable presence there in order to guide the most promising in the right direction.

The World Wide Web: The AGA needs to increase its presence on the Web. For instance, the Mind Sports Organization operates a very popular web site dedicated to strategy games of all types. Go has a high profile presence thanks to the outstanding reporting by John Fairbairn. Asian and European go are well covered, but there is nothing about US go. If the AGA can find the resources to establish a presence there, we should. There are countless other web sites that promote go and indirectly benefit AGA membership. Many of these sites do not have links to the AGA web site, and addressing this hole would be a good project for the Membership/Outreach Committee to take on in 2000.

Software: WinIGO, a 9x9 freeware version of Dave Fotland's MANY FACES OF GO, was released this year and has had a major impact on new Internet savvy beginners. Heads-up organizers are distributing diskette copies at public demonstrations. Two new instructional CD-ROMs also made it to the market in 1999: Yutopian's Go at Ease and Jonathan Wang's Jon's Go World. Both are aimed at the youth sector. The AGA is also developing an introductory CD-ROM containing many of the freeware and shareware programs that are available. If these CDs are to have maximum effect, go activists must expose them to the most promising potential markets.

Spanish Language Initiative: The Ibero-American Go Federation (FIG) provided 100 copies of their new go booklet, set for distribution to the U.S. Spanish-speaking community. Moreover, the AGA Information Pamphlet was translated into Spanish by FIG. It is hoped that this collaboration will continue as the new market is explored. One outcome of this initiative has been the mutual support of new go interest in Puerto Rico.

Membership Targets for 2000/01

- ❖ 500 new AGA members
- ❖ Less than 100 members lost because of non-renewal

Membership Goals and Objectives for 2000

- ❖ Expand the activities of the Membership Outreach Committee.
- ❖ Conduct a membership renewal campaign survey aimed at lapsed members to learn what we can do to keep them as members.
- ❖ Explore and expand contacts with Hispanic/Latino communities.
- ❖ Encourage chapters to conduct AGA membership drives.
- ❖ Develop new initiatives with the senior citizen community
- ❖ Promote awareness, interaction and activity among chapters, especially college-based chapters.
- ❖ Enhance the AGA's presence on Internet go servers and persuade go-related Web pages and other appropriate sites to link to www.usgo.org.
- ❖ Recruit volunteers by posting specific jobs on the Web site.

Key to achieving these goals will be keeping the American Go Journal on schedule, planning and executing outreach projects and communicating rapidly and often with new and old members alike.

We must make every effort to prove to our membership that the services they receive justify the dues that they pay!

PUBLICATIONS

Our premiere publication, **The American Go Journal** continues to flourish under the editorship of Chris Garlock, who introduced a bold new look when he took over in 1998. This year he took control of the production process and recruited a team of assistants who are making the Journal better than ever, with new features like Noriyuki Nakayama's column What's Wrong With That Move? and a series of reprints from Go Review, an English-language magazine published in Japan in the 1960's and 1970's. With its unique mix of commented American games, reprints of Asian classic material and other esoterica, the Journal is attracting more and more international subscribers.

This Spring saw the premiere of **The American Go E-Journal**, a weekly e-mailing to over 1200 members. By establishing more frequent contact with members in this way, we hope to improve our retention of new members.

Chapter Services Coordinator and Certified International Go Instructor Bill Cobb is also producing a series of publications for use by beginning players and organizers. Now into his fourth book of classic problems for beginners, Cobb also circulates our growing assortment of promotional items and educational aids. He is also working on an English-language version of **Keshi and Uchikomi**, a popular Japanese book that was partially serialized in the AGJ, and a two-volume compilation of one of the AGJ's most popular features over the years, **Masterpieces of Handicap Go**.

A team led by Karen Gold, a go player and a professional statistician, has developed the first member survey in nearly ten years, a questionnaire that was distributed in the Winter issue of the American Go Journal. In addition to seeking feedback that will guide the setting of AGA priorities, the survey also provides a demographic profile of our readers, which will be used to attract advertisers. Many thanks to all of you who returned the questionnaire you saw in the Spring issue.

CHAPTER SERVICES

by William S. Cobb, AGA Chapter Services Coordinator

It looks as if we will finish the year with about sixty registered chapters, just about where we were last year. Our national infrastructure remained stable this year, and there are encouraging signs of new activity and growth. A special effort to encourage clubs to become official chapters is just getting started. Two clubs have already changed their status.

Chapter and club information that appears in the Journal and on the web page is being continuously updated. Check your chapter's data, and send corrections to webmaster@usgo.org. A new system has now been installed that allows constant updating of the web page as soon as new information is entered into the database kept by Sam Zimmerman.

There have been some new developments in chapter services this year. In addition to the mailing new members receive, chapters (and Vice Presidents) are now informed as soon as anyone joins the AGA in their area. This enables the chapter to contact new members promptly and seems to be getting a good response. New members are also contacted by the Chapter Services Coordinator and told about any chapters near them. Information is provided about any special interests they indicate on their application forms.

The AGA has produced a number of promotional and support items that are new this year. Samples of these have been made available to chapters, and they are available at cost for promotional use.

- ❖ **Pencils** in various colors with www.usgo.org and either "I go for GO!" or "GO for it!" on them. We have distributed about 1750 of these.
- ❖ **Mouse pads** with a 9X9 board end game problem and the AGA web site address on them; we have sold about 75 of these.
- ❖ **Pocket-sized problem books for kyu players** now number four volumes, and hundreds of these have been distributed. A significant number of these have been sold to foreign go players.

- ❖ The most recent addition to this category is **Post-it pads** inscribed with www.usgo.org and the classic Chinese poem "Just one game, they said/ And started to play .../ That was yesterday" on them.
- ❖ **"I Go For GO"** is a newsletter specially addressed to our growing numbers of Youth members.
- ❖ We will also shortly produce some **anthologies** of articles from back issues of The American Go Journal. The first volume should be out this summer and will include the first twenty of the **Masterpieces of Handicap Go** articles. A second volume of these will include a few new game commentaries that are being translated by Bob McGuigan. Another volume will include the **Keshi and Uchikomi** (Reduction and Invasion) articles. The AGA will always be grateful to The Nihon Kiin for granting us permission to publish this material. Originally published back in the days when potentially strong players had almost no access to English language instruction, the articles significantly deepen Western understanding of Go. We also appreciate their generosity in authorizing this reprint, from which no profit will be made. Any revenue in excess of production cost will be used to produce additional promotional materials. As with Masterpieces of Handicap Go, the new edition of Keshi and Uchikomi will also contain new material — the final sections of the original series never appeared in the Journal. Don Wiener is preparing the rest of the series for inclusion. We hope to have this volume ready sometime this fall.

There are heartening signs of fresh activity, with new chapters and clubs emerging from Puerto Rico to Hawaii. Several new groups of players sprung up this year:

Hoboken NJ: Larry Russ' vigorous new club is a model for others to emulate. The AGA provided a critical helping hand.

Concord HS, Concord CA: Concord HS is in the Bay area just a little east of Berkeley, about a 50 minute drive from San Francisco. The students asked for and received AGA material support.

Hawaii: Hawaiian organizers Brian Leahy, Ian Forster, and Taeyol Yu received AGA member information support this year. We're awaiting developments, but the signs are promising.

Puerto Rico: Alexander Sorrentini of Bayamon PR is trying to create a go revolution. He received AGA material assistance in support of that goal.

West Virginia University: Martin Goon collaborated with long-time AGA member Ted Drange to restart weekly meetings at West Virginia University.

Salt Lake City: Mark Rindflesh and Mike Austin are doing great things to rejuvenate go in SLC. The AGA helped get these two key organizers in touch with each other.

Urbana HS, MD: Eric Ransom set out to create a go club to fulfill his community service requirement. Thanks to AGA support, the club opened in April 2000.

Another sign of increasing chapter activity is the appearance of new tournaments and workshops being supported by Chapters that have not put on such things before. Also, new teaching programs are springing up all across the country, and the number of presentations at bookstores and such is picking up. These are almost always directly supported by local chapters.

During the coming year we hope to continue to strengthen the AGA's support for chapter development, and we expect the increased levels of activity by chapters and clubs to continue to expand. We should have no trouble attaining a ten percent increase in the total number of official AGA chapters.

USGO.ORG: PROGRESS AND PLANS

By Chuck Robbins and Gordon Fraser, AGA Co-Webmasters

Web page management has transitioned from Jeff Shaevel to Gordon Fraser and me. Our goal is to provide timely updates of key information such as tournaments and chapters, update other areas of the Web site as appropriate, add new sections as time permits, and develop a group of web developers to both lighten the load on any one person and improve the timeliness of updates. We have also redesigned some of the underlying base pages.

We are very grateful to our growing staff of volunteers, who make it possible to do more than ever before, especially Paul Celmer, Arnold Eudell, Anna Fraser, Pascal Platteborse and Amy Yimeng Huang. But we're still not getting it all done. If you want to help, get in touch!

ADDITIONS

AGA Teaching Support Page

http://www.usgo.org/teach/ed_main.html

Gordon Fraser and Bill Cobb designed and implemented the AGA teaching support page, with links to many topics such as the Capture Game, Teaching Programs, Support for Teachers, and others.

Denver Congress Page

<http://www.usgo.org/congress/index.html>

Created by working with the Congress organizers, the Congress page details Congress Events, Local Attractions, the Youth Program, Accommodations, and Registration. The registration forms can be downloaded from the Web site.

Summer Go Camp Page

<http://www.usgo.org/teach/camp/gocamp.html>

Anna Fraser and Susan Weir created an inventive Summer Go Camp page. It includes information on the camp activities, dates, and registration forms.

IMPROVEMENTS

AGA Chapter/Club Page

<http://www.usgo.org/usa/chapters.asp>

The page is dynamically built from a database that Sam Zimmerman maintains. Periodically Sam puts the new database on the web server to update the list of chapters and clubs.

NAMT 2000 Page

<http://www.usgo.org/namt/index.html>

Jeff Shaevel continues to maintain the NAMT. The lead-in page has an exciting new look and continues to show history and scheduling information. Eileen Barberi has volunteered to gather more complete biographies of the professionals.

Updated Scrolling Banners

<http://www.usgo.org/index.html>

As important go events are brought to our attention we have been updating the scrolling banners on the AGA title page.

Maintenance of Distribution Lists

The Web staff continues to maintain the existing email lists such as agaec, agaboard, goteach, go-rules, and others. **Additionally** we have created the new E-journal list. On a weekly basis Chris Garlock creates and distributes the newest AGA publication to all AGA members for whom we have email addresses in our database.

Maintenance of Tournaments Page

Bob Barber continues to track and forward information about AGA tournaments. Currently this still requires manual html coding to display the updated information. We envision Bob maintaining and moving a database of tournament information to the web server sometime during the year 2000.

PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Tournament Directors Page

Planned as a replacement for the AGA Tournament Director's Guide this resource will help everyone from novice directors to experienced organizers to run any kind of tournament. It will include materials that TD's need — membership status lists, rating data, pairing software.

Online Promotional Kit

This page will offer downloadable promotional materials for people who want to promote go in their communities — sample press releases and speeches, posters, photos, etc.

Chapter Membership Online

Chapters are the essence of the AGA, and the coming online application form will make it even easier to establish one. The Membership Form will also be updated to include a British Go Association membership option, as part of a reciprocal relationship we have with the BGA so that AGA members can receive the British Go Journal (and vice versa).

Document Storage

A central area to store AGA documents and make them available to the public.

TREASURER'S REPORT

by Ulo Tamm, AGA Treasurer

I am happy to report that the Fiscal Year, March 1, 1999 to February 29, 2000 was a great year for the American Go Association. Our income exceeded our estimate by about \$19,000. This was due to many factors including: \$7K from a congress refund; almost \$3K from a Fujitsu surplus (thanks to Chris Kirschner's prudence in running the tournament); \$1K more in donations; \$1.7K more in sales; and approximately \$3K more from membership income. The books are reconciled, and the completed form 990 has been sent to the IRS.

From the expense side, we spent about \$6K more than expected. If we discount the advance to the congress, our budgeted expenditures were exceeded only by \$2K. This is indeed a good result, and it shows that our budgeting process seems to be working. The Journal exceeded its publication budget, acquiring needed new hardware and software. Four issues of the Journal were published for F1999.

Fujitsu's surplus is earmarked for use by this year's tournament just in case the exchange rate will not be as favorable as it was in 1999. Chris Kirschner produced an especially effective format for tracking Fujitsu expenses that will be used as a model for future tournaments. The AGA will also require similar information about local events and tournaments that receive funding from the AGA. Our tax return requires documentation covering our expenses, and questions such as "State the number of clients served..." would be simple to answer if we had actual figures. Therefore, local tournament organizers will be required to provide information explaining briefly the date of the event, type of doings, prize structure, number of participants (adult and youth) and names of winners. Not only will the information be especially helpful to answer tax return questions but it will enhance our report to the Ing Foundation.

This year the financial and corporate structure of the Congress has changed. Organizers of early Congresses needed a corporate entity and the AGA was not incorporated at that time, so "US GO Congress Corp." was formed to pass along the operation of the Congress to the

local Director each year. Since the AGA is now a fully accredited 501c4 non-profit corporation, this corporate entity has outlived its usefulness. The Executive Committee supports a plan to dissolve US Go Congress Corp. this year. The Congress will now be run directly as an AGA event. Separate records will be kept, and as in previous years, the amount remaining after expenses are paid will be split with the local organizer. The AGA will keep the other half in a special account from which next year's Congress-related expenses, such as the advance deposit on the facility, can be paid.

The new budget for the F2000 assumes a modest growth, not to exceed 3% in membership. We will project the Journal cost to be the same as last year and expect that the youth membership will grow by 10%, although this has very minimal effect on the bottom line.

Working funds appear to be rather large, but I think that this can be the first year that AGA can allocate, grant, or budget to fund worthy projects that can be collectively determined. Also, it should be noted here that although the Ing Chang-Ki Goe Foundation provides two yearly grants of \$40,000 each, the first grant has been arriving end of July and the second, early February (next year), meaning that our working funds are used to fund the Ing projects before the money is received. This still leaves a whopping \$43K with which to work, and this should be ample to institute exciting projects to publicize this game.

Summary of Income and Expenses

	INCOME	EXPENSES	TOTAL
AGA's	\$ 64,892	\$ 56,238	\$ 8,654
ING GOE Fund	\$ 80,000	\$ 73,697	\$ 6,303
Fujitsu	\$ 18,035	\$ 15,123	\$ 2,912
Summer Camp	\$ 10,892	\$ 10,892*	\$ -
IGS Management	\$ 2,000**	\$ 805	\$ 1,195
TOTAL	\$175,819	\$156,755	\$19,064

*Actual expense was \$12,192. Since internal fund transfer took place, the actual expense can not be shown here.

**The AGA was hired to conduct a match on the Internet between the strongest American and European amateurs, with the winner playing the winner of the Women's Championship. Many thanks to Chen-dao Lin for making this event possible.

AGA Income for Fiscal 1999

And Projections for F2000

MEMBERSHIP	Projected For F1999	Actual	Projected for F2000
Full	\$31,000	\$34,200	\$36,000
Limited	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,670	\$ 1,500
Youth (< 18yrs)	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,110	\$ 1,200
Chapters	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,820	\$ 2,000
Life	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,000
BGJ	\$ 300	\$ 270	\$ 300
SUB-TOTAL	\$38,900	\$42,070	\$43,000
OTHER			
Donations	\$ 4,200	\$ 5,295	\$ 5,000
Dividend	\$ 3,500	\$ 4,078	\$ 4,500
Interest	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,715	\$ 3,500
Advertising	\$ 1,000	\$ 550	\$ 999
Sales	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,759	\$ 3,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 200	\$ 410	\$ 500
Congress Return	\$ -	\$ 7,045	\$ 4,000
SUB-TOTAL	\$11,900	\$22,852	\$21,499
TOTAL	\$50,800	\$64,992	\$64,499

AGA Expenses for Fiscal 1999

and Projections for F2000

ITEM	Projected for F1999	Actual	Projected for F2000
Publications	\$25,000	\$28,307	\$25,000
Newsletter	\$ 1,000	\$ 434	\$ 500
Admin Svcs	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,815	\$ 6,000
Database Svcs	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,147	\$ 2,750
Post/Copy/Phone	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,248	\$ 5,000
Supplies	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,554	\$ 3,000
Legal	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,380	\$ 2,000
Web/Org	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,060	\$ 1,100
IGF Dues	\$ 700	\$ 375	\$ 400
Misc.	\$ 1,000	\$ 509	\$ 1,000
Internet/Software	\$ 500	\$ 318	\$ 500
Storage	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -
Transport/Conf	\$ 400	\$ 1,016	\$ 1,000
Bank fees	\$ 400	\$ 19	\$ 200
Credit card	\$ 200	\$ 421	\$ 450
Tax related	\$ 200	\$ 196	\$ -
Annual Rpt	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,199	\$ 1,000
Congress Advance	\$ -	\$ 4,300	\$ 6,000
TOTAL	\$50,500	\$56,238	\$55,900

Grants & Allocations for F2000

Fujitsu	\$ 2,912 (surplus)
Currently unallocated	\$ 6,000
Total:	\$ 8,912

Budget Analysis for F2000

The fiscal 2000 will prove to be an exciting year. We will certainly meet and may far exceed growth projections shown in the budget. In addition, we have over \$100K on deposit in the reserve and working fund. This money is not doing anything for us sitting in the bank. It should be working for us — paying for projects that will build awareness of go and membership in the AGA.

This is a time to be bold, but how? I would favor some type of promotional activity. Go is very undervalued and misunderstood by the public. In addition, it requires a special type of person, so you have to reach many people to get one player.

We would entertain proposals to invest up to \$10K, or even more, in projects that would build the go community in the US. Ideally, projects will have a “circular” effect of possibly generating revenue streams that will replenish the investment, so that the project can become self-sustaining. Some examples might be:

- Membership drive
- Production of equipment and promotional items for beginners
- Advertising campaign

“Bold” does not mean reckless. Reasonable proposals over \$1000 will be formally submitted to the Board of Directors before approval. Let’s figure out how to do something useful in the months ahead!

Reconciliation of Year F1999

Reserve Funds (Eaton Vance)	\$ 75,396
Working Funds	\$ 83,489
Total in All Accounts 2/29/00	\$158,885
Total in All Accounts 3/1/99	\$139,820
Bank Balance Increase	\$ 19,065

Ing Chang-ki Goe Fund

The Ing Chang-ki Goe Fund usage increased considerably from last year. Over 90% of the funds donated went to support Ing-funded projects and the remainder of \$6,303 was placed on reserve.

Budget and Expenses for F1999

And Projections for F2000

TOURNAMENTS	Budget	Actual	Proj F2000
Masters	\$13,000	\$11,430	\$13,000
ING Cup	\$12,000	\$10,975	\$12,000
Redmond Cup	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,005	\$ 5,000
EDUCATION AND PROMOTION			
Youth Scholarship	\$10,000	\$ 7,974	\$10,000
Summer Camp	\$ 4,000	\$ 800	\$ 3,000
Shipping/customs	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,321	\$ 3,000
Purchase/produce	\$ 6,000	\$11,159	\$ 8,500
Admin	\$ 2,000	\$ 437	\$ 1,500
Teach	\$ -	\$ 1,140	\$ -
Great Go Spiel	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,015	\$ 1,000
Go Video	\$ 4,000	\$ 5,870	\$ -
Go CD-ROM	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000*
REGIONAL ALLOTMENTS			
East	\$ 6,667	\$ 3,586	\$ 6,000
Central	\$ 6,667	\$ 8,450	\$ 6,000
West	\$ 6,667	\$ 6,534	\$ 6,000
Total	\$80,000	\$73,697	\$80,000

*These funds will be utilized to produce a menu-driven CD-ROM for beginners containing the best shareware and freeware that is currently available on the Internet in an easy-to-use format. This CD-ROM will be widely distributed for promotional purposes.

\$100,000 and over
Ing Chang-ki Goe Education Foundation

\$10,000 and over
Fujitsu Limited

\$1,000 and over
Eric Lloyd Cotsen Timothy L. Jeans

\$500 and over
Yoko Ohashi
Under \$500

Kurt Adam
David Anderson
Alex Averbuch
Bruce Bailey
F. Lee Baird
Bryan D. Baker
Robert J. Barber
Albert J. Bates IV
Douglas Bates
Evan Behre
Paul Bensen
Terence Benson
Kenneth D. Berg
Gunther Birznies
Louie Bouchard
James J. Brendle
Don Broersma
John N. Brow
Ernest Brown
D. Bruersman
Steven F. Burrall
Douglas M. Cable
Andreu Cabre
Edward Calabrese
Barbara Calhoun
Eric H. Carter
Richard M. Chalmers
Ben Chien
Han Min Chiu
William S. Cobb
Philip Cohen
Truman Collins
Jim Conyngham
Dewey G. Cornell
Earl Crabb II

Edward R. Downes
David A. Dows
Terrence Dugan
Richard Dunie
David Ehrbach
Steve Fawthrop
Robert Felice
David C. Fruchtenicht
Anthony Giancola
Christopher Greene
Lawrence E. Gross
William Haga
William Halden
Wilfred J. Hansen
Wesley H. Harker
Thomas Haus
John Haynes
Nathan Hess
William J. Hewitt
Yarodi Hiu
Craig Hoffman
Eric Hoffman
Mitsunori Honda
Stuart Horowitz
Kirby G. Huget
Thomas Hutchins
E. Hysner
Mozart Haruhisa Ishizuka
Steven D. Jamar
Robert Kaladish
Leonard Kane
Yuki Kaneko
Ogden Ellis Kellogg, Jr.
Anders Kierulf
Moon Chong Kim

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Yuchang Kim

Michael Lash
David S. Lazarus
Jung Hoon Lee
Roy Levien
Frank Lin
Robert Lindemann II
James R. Lindsay
Jing Lu
Dong Ma
James A. Maiorana
Howard Z. Marshall
David E. Matney
Paul Matthews
H. Gilman McCann
James Meade
John Menichelli
Roger E. Mills
Paul Mitchell
Trevor Morris
Oscar Muller
Wayne Nelson
The Nihon Ki-in of the West
Ted Ning
Peter Norman
Yoko Ohashi
Eric Osman
Maury Ostroff
Sang Soo Park
Peilung M. Peng
Franklin Pierce
Mahlon Perkins
Peter Preuss
John Raab
Noné C. Redmond
Stephen E. Richard
Francis Roads
Mitch Robinson
C. Rourke
Robert Schattke
Richard Schiek
R. Wayne Schmittberger
Michael Schwartz

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Cameron Scott
Jack Ko-Chien Shih

Dominic Simard
Bill Singer
Haskell Small
Phil Straus
Matt Strazzula
Takuma Suzuki
David M. Swan
Masao Takabe
Harumi Takechi
Isaac Tang
Nobuo Tarui
Thomas C. Taylor
Philip E. Tracy, Jr.
Michael Tuchman
Richard Tunder
John Van Voorhis
Eric Wainwright
Joseph H. Wang
Wen C. Wei
David Weimer
Gregg Weisskirk
Douglas B. West
Ronald G. White
David E. Whiteside
Andrew D. Whitmont
Donald Wiener
Phillip Williamston
Bruno Witte
William Witthoff
Tristran Wooster
Frank Wyse
Peter Yam
Sung W. Yoon
Jonathan Zierk
Samuel Zimmerman
Adrian Zwieg
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James Kerwin
David Matson