



Kibitzer

Palo Alto Unit 503

Volume XXXX, Issue 8

August 2002

Palo Alto Sectional Scores Again!

Another Firecracker Sectional, another success! The annual sectional was held at the Elks Lodge Wednesday, July 3 through Sunday, July 7. There were 660 tables for 9 sessions with an average of 73 tables per session. In the 2001 tournament, the total was 706 for 10 sessions with a 71 table-average per session. See page 4 for the financial report

The top attendance was on Friday afternoon with 106 tables, followed closely with 102.5 on Saturday afternoon. The table count was 49.5 for Wednesday, 135 for Thursday, 180.5 for Friday, 161.5 for Saturday and 134 for Sunday. An encouraging statistic is the 111 tables of I/N, which is a 14 table average per session, the same average as in 2001.

Of course, the Unit owes much of the success to the Firecracker Sectional chairman, Lorna Cor-

beta and her committee chairs, Mary Ann Larkin in hospitality, Ginger Herrick with partnerships and Gloria Leitstein, caddy master. Equally important were the players who pitched in to help with hospitality and partnership. The holiday decorations, personal warmth of committee members and the orderly tournament management contributed to the ambience.

The Unit members listed below enjoyed their first overalls at the Firecracker Sectional: Grant Spaeth, Mike Atherton, Charles Lindauer, David Chang, Irene Price, William Price, Jacqueline Blake, Marjorie Marx, Phoebe Korn Barbara Kates, Eugene Kates, Gary Yang, Kenneth Shafer, Mark Robichek, Franz Lanzinger, John Mattis, Tom Snouse, Ashraf El Sadi, Ted Aberg, Adam Meyerson, Theodore Hwa, Ravi Ramarmoorthi and Qing Yang.

Beginning Bridge Lessons Start on Thursday, September 5—see page 2 for more info.

EASY WAY TO BRIDGE WITH EASYBRIDGE

The Palo Alto Unit will sponsor Easy Bridge, an ACBL promotion, on Monday evening from 7-9:30 p.m. starting Monday, September 9 at the Bridge Center. Faye Parsons will hold lessons and play. The first three weeks and lesson books are FREE with a partner guarantee. Meet other bridge players (or future bridge players) and enjoy free snacks and coffee. For more information, call the Unit at 650/940-1824 or Faye at 408/378-4719.

Encourage all your friends, even those who have never before seen a deck of cards, to join Easy Bridge.

Reminders:

Contributions still needed to cover cost of handicap bathrooms for our new Bridge Center

Mentor Program: Please review flyers up on bulletin board at Bridge Center on this worthwhile program and sign up!

(See articles on these topics from last month's *Kibitzer*.)

Beginning Bridge Lessons

Starting September 5 - SPREAD THE WORD

The very popular Frank Smoot teaches the four-part Audrey Grant series, appropriately titled Clubs, Diamonds, Hearts and Spades. This is Frank's eighth year teaching this class! The cost per series is \$70 which includes the cost of the book.

Class times and place: Thursdays (note new day) from 7:00-10:00 p.m. at our beautiful new Bridge Club on Terminal Boulevard in Mountain View. The first series starts on Thursday, September 5. Get there a little early - no later than 6:45 so you can sign up. We typically have 6-10 tables of four people. Although it would be helpful to know if you are coming, signing up prior to class time is not necessary. You need not attend every class. As long as you're willing to do a little catch up, you'll be fine.

The Club series is an eight-week course for beginners who have never played bridge before or for people who haven't played for years and need or want a refresher course. The Diamond series is more of the same, and focuses on declarer play. The Heart series continues and emphasizes defense. The Spade series puts it all together.



You may also wish to download the free software offered by the ACBL - "Learn to Play Bridge" found in the middle of the headlines on the home page: <http://www.acbl.org> as extra help.

Please call Lori Spaeth at 650/947-9370 or Joan Von Gehr at 650/366-2554

Bridge Club Notes

The Palo Alto BC has moved from the JCC and merged with the Bridge mix at the Bridge Center. Game time is 11 a.m. on Monday.

The Unit is investigating the start of a Saturday night game, which would have an individual move format. Hence, there is no need to come with a partner. To express your interest, contact Sherie Greenberg at 650/856-7941 in a timely manner.

Table Talk

Jerry Smith is back playing duplicate bridge after an absence of several years. While he was away, he completed a genealogy of the Smith family (It's easy to understand why he needed so much time). He has now published and sold copies of the book. Welcome back, Jerry! We missed you.

Did you know that Cameron Cotton, the owner of the Alpine and the owner and director of the Cotton club, also owns clubs in 3 other cities, San Francisco, Burlingame and San Diego? All of these together run a total of 35 games a week. Wow!

Bagpipes and bridge created an en-

tertaining duo, for Thursday night players at the Bridge Center the week of June 22, as a musician played in the field across the street.

Ernst Jacobi wanted us to be sure to thank everyone for the cards and visits since his convalescence last month. He's already back playing bridge.



Qualify for NAOP in August Games

Seven clubs, five daytime and two nighttime, have scheduled qualification matches for the Unit NAOP. All of them will be during the week of August 4. See the schedule on the back page for more details.

Players can earn extra master points and qualify for the next level. The Unit final will be a two-

session event on Saturday, October 19 in which qualifiers can earn a place in the district final.

Players who place in the overalls in their respective strata earn sectional-rated half red and half black master points. Any player who scores average or higher or finishes in the upper half will be eligible for the Unit final.

We Appreciate...From Firecracker Sectional

Door Prize Donors: Acorn Restaurant, El Paso Café, Tem Fu, Chantilly, Clarke's Rancho, Crown Plaza Hotel and Unit members, Jeanne and William Pomeroy.



Pictured: M.A. Berg, M. A. Larkin, Lorna and Claire

Jeanette McNeil won the raffle for the Crown Plaza prize donation of a room for two with Sunday brunch.. With the raffle proceeds Sherie purchased four additional Sunday brunches for two, awarded at the tournament

Sectional set-up and take-down crew: Pat and Robin

Chambers, Russie Chesler, Cres Cole, Alan Cummings, Gene Drew, Frank Frates, Carolyn Macey, John and Linda Mattis, Kevin O'Leary, Merle Orelove, Sue Sukontarah, Elinor Tanck, Mary Van Tamelen and Ethel Worcester.

Interunit Team Changes Announced

There's a new date and strata change for the Palo Alto qualification format for the interunit team game with Santa Clara. In addition, the final challenge date is not August 18, but will be sometime in October.

The qualification date is now **Saturday, August 3 at 11:30 a.m.** at the Bridge Center. There will be 5 strata: **0-50, 0-300, 0-750, 0-1500 and 0->1500**. The format will be Swiss with the number of boards per round to be determined by the total teams enrolled.

Only Palo Alto paid-up Unit members are eligible. Make plans now to form teams. Teams, which may include up to six players, should sign up on the list posted at the Bridge Center. Information should include captain, names of each team member. For further info, contact Kevin O'Leary at 650/965-1827 or email oleary20@pacbell.net.

Email Addresses for ACBL Score

The new 7.0 version of ACBL Score has an email address box. This program is the one the club directors use to print the game results and record the master points. All those who wish to enter their email address, send it to Kevin O'Leary, oleary20@pacbell.net.

NEXT BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, August 6, 4 p.m.
Bridge Center

It Seems to Me

by Gersh Wheeler

To be a good bridge player you have to pay attention to everything that happens at the table. To be a better player you must also pay attention to what does not happen.

This hand is a good example:

	North	
	S: A543	
	H: AQT6	
	D: T87	
	C: 63	
West (Dealer)		East
S: KJT98		S: 762
H: K872		H: 95
D: K	South	D: 543
C: KJ2	S: Q	C: A9875
	H: J43	
	D: AQJ962	
	C: QT4	

The Bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 S	Pass	Pass	2D
2H	3D	3S	4D
Pass	5D		

You sit South and must pick up both red kings to make your contract. West leads the two of hearts. You win with the jack. How do you play the diamonds?

Ordinarily the odds favor taking the diamond finesse, but you have some information from what didn't happen. West did not lead a high club. If he had held both the ace and king, surely he would have preferred that lead to the small heart. Therefore, East must hold either the ace or king of clubs. If East also held the king of diamonds, he would have had enough to bid at least one no trump on the first round of bidding. But East passed and therefore cannot have the king of diamonds.

Your only chance to make the contract is that West's king of diamonds is a singleton. So, on the second trick you play the ace of diamonds. Fortunately, the king drops. But even if it didn't, you have the satisfaction of knowing you made the correct play.

FIRECRACKER FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The following is a summary of the finances for the 2002 and 2001 Firecracker Sectionals.

Income	2002	2001	Diff.
Number of Tables	660.5	706	-46
Player Fees	\$21,151	\$22,554	-\$1,403
Expenses			
ACBL fees	8,898	8,716	+182
District 21 Supplies	827	882	-55
Rent	8,750	7500	+1,250
Caddies	875	850	+25
Hand records	150	150	0
Advertising	100		+100
Lights	330	330	0
Candy	200	205	-5
Misc	398	78	+328
Total Expenses	20,528	18,711	+1,817
Net income	\$623	\$3,843	-3,220

Player Advancements

The ACBL May 31 printout shows that the following players have moved up. Congratulations!

<u>Junior Master (5 MP)</u>	Boyer Chu, Allene Natrass
<u>Club Master (20)</u>	Gary Kao
<u>NABC Master (50)</u>	Suzanne Hassid,
<u>Life Master (300)</u>	Larry Rosenberg
<u>Bronze LM (500)</u>	Charles Findeisen

Newcomers

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members: Marcella Atherton, Michael Atherton, Leslie Conley, Thomas Dayharsh, Larry Mohr and Rangaswamy Vasudevan.



June 2002 Winners' Circle



Compiled by Alan Templeton

Monday

Bridge Mix

- 3 N. Wolf/P. Saunders
J. Flocks/B. Sonsini
(A&B) G. Leitstein/M. Orelove
- 10 H. Narasimhan/A. Levy
(B) I. Schwab/R. Heller
J. Flocks/J. Brown
(A&B) J. Robinson/J. Von Gehr
(C) G. Leitstein/M. Orelove
- 17 T. Ross/D. Storm
(B) E. Kridl/J. Robinson
J. O'Neil/K. Harper
(A&B) K. O'Leary/D. Lowry
(B&C) M. Orelove/L. Blum
- 24 P. & R. Chambers
(B) M. Larkin/J. Von Gehr
(A&B) W. Coke/W. Pomeroy
(C) J. Green/J. Shaffer

Palo Alto BC

- 3 L. Doying/R. DeGolia
A. Mollard/D. Hornback
- 10 H. Sung/S. Hassid
B. Varner/L. Sung
- 17 D. Shannahan/M. Fikes
S. & T. Schafer
- 24 J. Janetos/N. Girand
P. Korn/L. Kelly

Tuesday

Alpine BC

- 4 M. Yates/T. Ross
W. Coke/J. Brown
H. Solleder/A. Levy
B. Schneider/D. Rothschild
- 11 P. Chambers/L. Spaeth
W. Pomeroy/G. Skidmore
L. Chaffee/T. Hall
D. Duncan/C. Binasiak
- 18 V. Herrick/W. Coke
E. Blocks/C. Brunsting
J. Edwards/J. Girand
D. Duncan/C. Binasiak
- 25 B. Ross/M. Gordon
B. Leonard/S. Thomas
J. Robinson/P. Tsu
W. Yetter/M. Coy

Tuesday Noon BC

- 4 See Under 200 Club
- 11 M. Berg/J. Von Gehr
(B) L. Mattis/A. Story
(C) F. Bennett/J. Chui
B. Larsen/D. Hornback
(B) J. Keehan/L. Lettis
(C) E. Rossi-Jaschob/S. Caeton
- 18 R. Lynch/B. Liddicoat
(B&C) A. Suares/J. Seiff
(B) A. & R. Rice
(C) F. Charney/J. McNeil
(A&B) T. Stevens/R. Nelson
- 25 (C) A. Suares/F. Bennett
(A&B) I. & W. Price
(C) B. Kates/E. Gorlin

Under 200 Bridge Club

- 4 L. Mattis/C. Naar
(B) E. Moley/J. Carollo
A. Robinson/E. Edwards
(B) J. Mattis/F. Bennett
Other dates - see Tuesday
Noon BC

Tuesday Night BC*

- 4 (A&B) F. Herzer/R. Haines
(A&B) B. Robinson/D. Fecher
- 11 H. Solleder/J. Stanczak
(B) V. Vidwans/S. Shih
(Tie-A&B) B. Robinson/R. French
- 18 (Tie) K. Siedenburger/C. Larsen
B. Barlow/M. Cordell
(A&B) C. & H. Lindauer
(A&B) M. Wilson/E. Tanck
- 25 L. Cicolani/J. McCloy
(A&B) J. Mrazek/S. Malek
F. Parsons/D. Rothschild
(A&B) B. Robinson/R. French

*Hand records provided

Wednesday

Bridge N Brunch

- 5 M. Yates/K. Harper
(A,B&C) G. Humphreys/A. Meyerson
- 12 (A,B&C) G. Humphreys/A. Meyerson
(A,B&C) C. Donovan/C. Henkels
- 19 M. Coy/W. Yetter
(B) M. Ellers/L. Prim
(A&B) C. Lin/M. Chen
(C) E. Nakayasu/T. Kato
- 26 S. Greenberg/T. Moalem
(B) J. Robinson/S. Oakes
B. Sonsini/G. Simpson
(B&C) E. Beckwith/M. Petersen

Wed. Aft. 49er**

- 5 E. Moley/J. Carollo
F. Charney/J. McNeil
- 12 A. Natrass/M. Soltz
K. Cano/K. Pickert
- 19 E. Moley/M. Anderson
M. Partney/A. Sebastian
- 26 A. Suares/T. Stevens
F. Charney/J. McNeil

Cotton Club

- 5 R. Dannels/J. Kelsey
N. Mohanram/G. Venkatesh
- 12 S. Malek/J. Mrazek
M. Brabb/M. Moore
- 19 S. Goldshine/K. O'Leary
S. Morley/A. Cummings
- 26 H. Solleder/J. Stanczak
L. Spaeth/J. Samuels

**Includes lesson and hand records with analysis

Thursday

Sherie's BC

- 6 A. Merolla/A. Garber
M. Slater/J. Burlingame
L. Chaffee/J. Franke
L. Lettis/J. Keehan
- 13 M. O'Leary/N. Stevens
B. Donoghue/L. Doying
- 20 A. Garber/D. Hornback
C. Binasiak/D. Duncan
B. Coyle/J. Sheppard
J. Keehan/L. Lettis
- 27 M. O'Leary/R. Kilner
J. Birnbaum/N. Weiss
A. Mollard/J. Brandon
R. Hanna/E. Miller

Thursday Aft. BC

- 6 G. Wheeler/D. Rothschild
(B) B. Ross/C. Macey
M. Hafezi/W. Yetter
(B) W. Brigham/V. Herrick
(C) M. Goodman/C. Lane
- 13 E. McCarthy/A. Arnold
(B) P. Gross/G. Leitstein
(A&B) R. & W. Hoeger
- 20 C. Coleman/J. Robinson
(B) B. Hirsekorn/P. Tsu
(A&B) M. Chen/N. Wang
- 27 P. Chambers/C. Brigham
(A&B) B. Olmo/R. Heller

Red Club

Unavailable

Friday

Friday Morning BC

- 14 M. Yates/B. Beardsley
(B) G. Pani/J. Sogg
R. Friend/D. Wheeler
(B) H. Sung/B. Varner
(C) J. Janetos/M. Kelly
- 21 E. McCarthy/J. Robinson
(B) J. Chognard/B. Olmo
M. Hafezi/R. Chambers
(A,B&C) A. Cummings/S. Morley
- 28 J. Von Gehr/A. Oliff
(B) E. Kridl/A. Felsovanyi
C. & W. Brigham
(A,B&C) I. & W. Price

Friday Night Barometer

- 14 (Tie) S. Greenberg/J. O'Neil
(Tie) A. & J. El Sadi
(B) V. Vidwans/R. Gupta
F. Lowenthal/R. Ritz
(B) P. Cornelius/K. Siedenburger
- 21 V. Vidwans/R. Gupta
J. McCloy/L. Cicolani
(B) K. Siedenburger/P. Cornelius
- 28 A. & J. El Sadi
(B) Y. Chen/F. McWilliams
M. Robichek/G. Porter
(A&B) D. & T. Fiero

Saturday

One Club

- 1 L. Finkelstein/J. Hodges
(B) E. Yaklowitz/P. Gross
(C) J. Janetos/A. Laird
C. Sideris/P. Krupa
(B) M. Randolph/E. Worcester
(C) J. & L. Mattis
- 8 P. & R. Chambers
(B) J. Janetos/A. Laird
(A&B) M. O'Malley/E. Worcester
- 15 J. Hayashi/K. Nadar
(B) A. Suares/C. Naar
F. Parsons/B. Figueiredo
(B) W. Sumner/M. Hiranandani
- 22 C. Bjorklund/A. Levy
(B) P. Gross/G. Leitstein
(B&C) D. & E. Ehrman
T. Bowman/M. Moore
(A,B&C) R. W. Hoeger
- 29 M. Yates/P. Chambers
J. Blake/R. Levin
(A&B) J. Brown/P. Tsu

Sunday

Sunday Aft. BC

- 16 R. Krop/K. Harper
(B) M. Moore/F. Frates III
- 23 P. & R. Chambers
(B) R. Chesler/M. Feldstein
- 30 P. & R. Chambers
(B&C) J. Blake/R. Levin
J. Flocks/F. Parsons
J. Robinson/P. Tsu
(B&C) G. Pani/J. Clark

DAY	BRIDGE CLUB	TYPE	TIME	DIRECTOR(S)	PLACE
MON	Bridge Mix	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	Kev/Bon/Claire/Sherie	2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View
TUES	Tuesday Noon BC	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	Walter Miller	Unity Church, YES Rm, 3391 Middlefield Rd, PA
	"Under 200" Club	<200 M.P.	12:00 p.m.	Walter Miller	Unity Church, YES Rm, 3391 Middlefield Rd, PA
	Alpine BC	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	Cameron Cotton	2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View
	Kevin's Tuesday Night BC	Open/Strat.	7:00 p.m.	Kevin O'Leary	2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View
WED	Bridge 'n Brunch	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	Sherie Greenberg/	2639A Terminal Street, Mountain View
	Wed Aft. 49er	<50 M.P.	1:30 p.m.	Walter Miller	Unity Church, YES Rm, 3391 Middlefield Rd, PA
	The Cotton Club	Open/Strat.	7:00 p.m.	Cameron Cotton	2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View
THUR	Thur. Afternoon BC	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	Beardsley/O'Leary	2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View
	Sherie's BC	Open/Strat.	1:00 p.m.	Sherie Greenberg	JCC, 655 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto
	Red Club	Open/Strat.	7:15 p.m.	Will Watson	2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View
FRI	Friday Morning BC	Open/Strat.	10:30 a.m.	Coleman/Van Zandt	2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View
	Friday Night Barometer	Open/Strat.	7:30 p.m.	Coleman/Watson	2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View
SAT	One Club	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	Beardsley/O'Leary	2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View
SUN	Sunday Afternoon BC	Open/Strat.	1:00 p.m.	Claire Coleman	2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View

Directors:

Bonnie Beardsley (408) 263-5953
 Claire Coleman (650) 368-5917
 Cameron Cotton (415) 902-7800
 Sherie Greenberg (650) 856-7941
 Walter Miller (510) 839-5929
 Kevin O'Leary (650) 965-1827
 Yvonne Van Zandt (408) 270-8478
 Will Watson (650) 579-7552

Unit Contact:

Call Claire Coleman (650) 368-5917 or
 e-mail unit503@accesscom.com

Unit 503 Web Address:

<http://www.accesscom.com/~unit503>.

Bridge Club Phone: (650) 940-1824

District 21 Hotline: (888) 292-4612

Upcoming Events:

Sectional, Friday, August 2 at Hayward, Centennial Hall
 Interunit Team Qualif., Sat., August 3, at 11:30 a.m., Bridge Center
 NAOP, Monday, August 5 at 11 a.m., Bridge Mix
 Club championship, Tuesday, August 6 at noon, Alpine BC
 NAOP, Tuesday, August 6 at 7 p.m., Tuesday Night BC
 NAOP, Wednesday August 7 at 11 a.m., Bridge 'n Brunch
 Club championship, Wednesday August 7 at 7 p.m., Cotton Club
 NAOP, Thursday, August 8 at noon, Thursday Afternoon BC
 NAOP, Thursday, August 8 at 1 p.m., Sherie's BC
 NAOP, Thursday, August 8 at 7:15 p.m., Red Club
 NAOP, Saturday, August 10 at noon, One Club
 Club championship, Wed., Aug. 14 at 11 a.m., Bridge 'n Brunch
 Club championship, Thursday, August 15 at 1 p.m., Sherie's BC
 Regional, Tuesday, August 27 at Santa Clara, Westin Hotel

Palo Alto Unit #503
 c/o Jim Turner
 418 Gilbert Avenue
 Menlo Park, CA 94025

TIME VALUE—DATED MATERIAL

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