



Palo Alto Unit 503

Volume XXXXIII, Issue 3

March 2005

Mixed Pairs Frolic Sunday, March 20

P P W

A Unit mixed pairs, with an Irish theme, is the feature event for Sunday, March 20 at noon at the Bridge Center. Make your plans now to find the appropriate partner, because lasses will team up with lads for this contest. Unmixed pairs are welcome, but only mixed pairs are eligible for overall awards.

Be sure to wear your green and bring your lucky four-leaf clovers and winning smiles to insure good fortune at the table. As usual there will be hand records,

name tags, a goody table and an enjoyable environment.

Unit to Hold March 20 Meeting

The by-laws require the Unit to have an annual Membership Meeting. Therefore, the Unit has scheduled this meeting at the Bridge Center for Sunday, March 20, at noon, prior to the Mixed Pairs game. This meeting gives Unit members the opportunity for direct participation in the Unit's decision and policy making. Any member who wishes to place an item on the agenda must notify the Unit secretary, David Wheeler, in advance by telephone at (650) 494-1375 or email hswdw@pacbell.net. A written note should follow any telephone communication.



Unit News

We're now <u>www.paloaltobridge.com</u> We just changed our web address to something easier to remember. Although you can use either the old or the new address, you should bookmark the new address so you get familiar with it and delete your old bookmark (favorite).

The January 19 issue of the Los Altos Town Crier featured a full page article on the Bridge Center and the players. If you missed the article, there is a link to it on the Unit web page. Special thanks go to Ann Mollard for making the arrangements for its publication.

At the Unit Board meeting on February 1, the Board approved the flyer for the Firecracker Sectional, June 30-July 4, 2005. The schedule is the same as in 2005, but with the addition of a Compact Knock-Out Teams on Sunday.

Alan Cummings, chair of long range planning, outlined the purposes of the committee to insure the long term viability of the Unit. The committee plans to undertake several projects for consideration; among them, a mission statement and member survey. Any player who has ideas for the committee should contact Alan at (650) 723-1413, alanc@bonair.stanford.edu.

Congratulations to Tom Snouse for his 7th place finish in the money winning Pro Bridge Tour for 2004. Tom modestly said that if he can do it, anyone can. More congratulations to Larry Mohr for third in the nation in the NABC Mini-McKenney category, and to Erin Gove first and Jan Adamiak eighth, in the Club category. Erin and Jan are from the Santa Clara Valley Unit, but play regularly in Sherie's games.



2004 Unit Trophy Winners



Gene Drew and Ruth Ann Lynch (299er)

Unit Game Schedule

Unit game chairman, John Hornback has prepared the following schedule.

March 20 Mixed Pairs

April 17 Charity Game

May 22 Pro-Am Game

June 12 Flighted Pairs



All games are at noon on Sunday at the Bridge Center.

Brigham and Story Teams Win Swiss

At the Unit Swiss Team game on Sunday January 23, the team of Carol Brigham, Ginger Herrick, Trina Bowman and Prue Saunders edged out the Alan Cummings quartet by one victory point. In the 0-99 field, the team of Alice Story, Cecile Naar and Richard and Catherine Johnson were triumphant. The huge turnout proved the popularity of this type of event with 20 teams in the open and six in the limited section. Overall results are on the Winners Circle page.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 1
Bridge Center, 3:45 p.m.

Committee Appointments

President Barbara Sonsini has named the following committee heads.

Committee Chair

Art Coordinator
Bridge Ctr manager
Business Manager
Computer Support
Conduct/Ethics
District 21 Coordinator

Liz Blum
Claire Coleman
Gloria Leitstein
Will Watson
Barbara Sonsini
Claire Coleman

District 21 Repres. Tom Snouse, Gabriella Bowling

Alonzo Raymond-alternate

Education Lori Spaeth
Election Louise Doying
Forum Editor Gabriella Bowling
Historian Mary Van Tamelen
Intermed/Novice Liaison Gabriella Bowling

Kibitzer Editors Elinor Tanck, Lori Spaeth

Kibitzer Mailing Ethel Worcester
Long Range Planning Alan Cummings
Membership Chairman Louise Doying
Membership List Jim Turner
Mentor Program Barbara Sonsini
Photographer Lori Spaeth, Liz Blum

Sectional Alan Cummings, Gloria Leitstein

Sunshine Lorna Corbetta
Supplies Dave Wheeler

Telephone List Gloria Leitstein, Dave Bernstein

Trophies Liz Blum
Unit Electronic Contact Elinor Tanck
Unit Game Coordinator John Hornback

Web Site Alan Cummings, Alan Templeton

Newcomers

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members: Zhengxu He, Aud Le Cesne Byrne, Eugene Raudn and Yuval Spector. Hello, to the following player who has transferred into our Unit: Nancy Rude.

Sympathy

The Unit Board and members extend their sincere condolences to Eleanor and her family and friends on the passing of her husband, John McCarthy in late January. Both John and Eleanor served for many years on the *Kibitzer* production staff during the 70's and 80's.

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Gersh Wheeler - A Superstar in our Midst By Barbara Sonsini



As Woody Hayes, the great football coach from the Ohio State Buckeyes once said, "When the ball goes into the air, three things can happen - and two of them are bad!" This is how I feel about writing my tribute to Gersh. Chances are I will fail to mention one of his myriad accomplishments.

Gersh has been playing bridge a very long time. He may not have numbered in the Barry Crane 500, but he certainly had an incredible run at the Regional level. He learned whist as a boy of eight and began playing bridge a few years after it was conceived in 1925. He joined the ACBL in 1937 but immediately resigned because of its racist policy of limiting membership to only whites.

For those of you who know Gersh, he represents to us Californians the consummate Eastern gentleman and scholar. Indeed, his undergraduate degree was from Harvard in Astronomy, which he coupled with two more Harvard advanced degrees in Education and Law. His educational background afforded him many career paths. He taught

private school in Miami Beach and, after retirement, taught part time at Ohlone College for 25 years. During World War II he helped develop radar at MIT's Radiation Lab. Subsequently he worked at Raytheon in Boston and Sylvania in Mountain View. At 50 he wrote a text on microwaves, and this was followed by 6 other publications. Although I had to pry it from his lips, he confessed to holding 9 patents of which he humbly admits only 2 are important.

What a treat it is for us to have Gersh continue to play at our club. For those of you East-Wests who play at his table, you know he is one terrific competitor. For those N-S who don't play against him, you are missing his very wry wit, good-natured chatter and sardonic humor - not to mention the never-ending stream of bidding quizzes. Trust me when I tell you he is definitely still way at the top of his game, and we relish trying to keep up. We love you Gersh!

Editorial Note: Most Unit players are familiar with his bridge columns for the Kibitzer since day one. The first of his ongoing series "It Seems to Me" appeared in June 1996. The editors include his columns whenever there is space available.

It Seems to Me

Bidding above the level of game requires logical thinking and rarely needs artificial conventions. Here are a few examples:

- 1. My partner was dealer and bids 1S, the next player bid 2H. I bid 5S. My partner passed! The opponents took 2 heart tricks and my partner took the rest, making his contract. The 5S bid was a logical bid, which said," I have 2 losers in the opponent's suit. If you have second-round control or better, bid the slam."
- 2. I opened the bidding 1H. Partner bid 5H. This is different from the preceding case, because there was no opponent's suit in the bidding. Here the 5H bid means, "We have enough for slam, but I have no controls in the trump suit. Because, I had AJT96 in hearts, I bid 6 and hoped I would catch either the king or queen. As it happened, the opposing trump broke 2-2, so I made the slam.
- 3. Partner dealt and opened 2C (strong). Next player bid 2S. I passed. The other opponent bid 4S. Partner bid 5D. Next player bid 5S. Now what would you do with each of the two following hands?

Hand A Sxxx, Hxxxx, Dxxx, Cxxx

Hand B SAxx, Hxxxx, Dxxx, Cxxx

With hand A, you must tell partner that there's no hope of making a slam, so you double. With hand B, partner might be able to make 6, but not if he has a spade void. Your best action is to pass. Because you did not double, partner knows you have a possible trick, which can only be the spade Ace.

4. My left hand opponent was dealer and opened the bidding with 4D. After my partner passed, the next opponent bid 5D. I had a tremendous hand and bid 6D. My partner held: S6432 HA9754, D3, C654. Partner knows I want him to bid 6H or 6S, if he has a four-card suit and no tricks. Because he has an A, he bid 7H, which he made easily.



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2004 UNIT LEADERS IN ACE OF CLUBS AND MINI-MCKENNEY

The ACBL gives the Ace of Clubs award to the players who earn the most points in club games and the Mini-McKenney award for total points including sectionals and higher ranked tournaments. Congratulations to those who finished in the top three for 2004.



The solution to last month's puzzler: Play the ace of clubs, pitching your queen of spades. Next, play the eight of spades and if west pitches a heart or east pitches a heart or club, you have the rest of the tricks!

Player Advancements

The ACBL January and February reports show that the following players have moved up. Congratulations!

Brahm Levin, Mary Jane Lucid			
Morgan Lucid, Jack Pickart			
Alice Simpson, Gladys Stark			
Belinda Gu, Carrie Karnos,			
Steven Lipson, Chris Luhrs			
Marilyn Payne, Frances			
Bennett, Donna Armstrong			
Yi Chen, Bill Garrett			
Samuel Ieong, Roy Woolsey			
Dave Bernstein, Merle Orelove			
Richard Williams			

Ace Of Clubs						
Dealds of the Very						
Rookie of the Year	26					
Geeske Joel	26 24					
Rein Luik						
John Schwartz	21					
Junior Master						
Lynn Whelan	35					
Joan Bower	24					
John Williams	21					
Club Master						
Gabriella Bowling	54					
Randee Palmer	43					
Marilyn Payne	41					
Sectional Master						
David Wheeler	89					
Nancy Cadwell	64					
Adeline Suares	61					
Regional Master						
Richard Pollak	66					
Audrey Mitchell	62					
Jean Franke	50					
NABC Master						
Ann Mollard	71					
Leslie Kelly	42					
Gloria Leitstein	36					
Life Master	•					
Dave Bernstein	63					
Doreen Hornback	61					
Alan Cummings	46					
Bronze Life Master						
Virginia Herrick	96					
Marianne Moutoux	76					
Albert Pagin	70					
	/ 1					
Silver Life Master						
Lori Spaeth	122					
Richard Williams	83					
Prudence Saunders	76					
Gold Life Master						
Patricia Chambers	119					
Margery Yates	113					
Robin Chambers	99					
Diamond Life Master						
Sherie Greenberg	64					
<u> </u>						
Donald Rothschild	32					
Gary MacGregor	25					
Grand Life Master						
G. Venkatesh	12					

wini-wckenney						
Rookie of the Year						
Nongyu Li	74					
Rein Luik	46					
John Schwartz	36					
	30					
Junior Master	77					
Lynn Whelan	77					
Joan Bower	38					
John Williams	25					
Club Master	400					
Gabriella Bowling	102					
Randee Palmer	84					
Marilyn Payne	78					
Sectional Master						
David Wheeler	188					
Nancy Cadwell	143					
Freya Charney	89					
Regional Master						
Audrey Mitchell	136					
Tong Neo Choo	111					
D. N. Dong	106					
NABC Master						
Larry Mohr	480					
Jan Samuels	116					
Ann Mollard	108					
Life Master						
Joon Pahk	152					
Doreen Hornback	116					
Alan Cummings	116					
Bronze Life Master	•					
Barbara Sonsini	393					
Rajeev Gupta	200					
Paul Cornelius	183					
Silver Life Master	1					
Mary Ann Berg	387					
• •						
Carolyn Bjorklund	288					
Lori Spaeth	247					
Gold Life Master						
Hansa Narasimhan	712					
James O'Neil	320					
Ashraf El Sadi	306					
Diamond Life Master						
Gary MacGregor	387					
Donald Rothschild	244					
Sherie Greenberg	212					
Grand Life Master						
G. Venkatesh	285					
J. 7511101011	_55					





January 2005 Winners' Circle





Individual game results are at: http://www.accesscom.com/~unit503/gameresults.html

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Monday

Bridge Mix

P. Saunders/C. Colvin P. & R. Chambers (B) B. Olmo/M. Troster

3

M. Brabb/G. Wheeler (B) A. Arnold/S. Morley J. Flocks/D. Wheeler
(B) N. Cadwell/J. Rollin

A. Lalchandani/H. Bennett (B) G. Wheeler/G. Drew (AB) G. Herrick/D. Bernstein

(C) S. Liebhaber/R. Lachman B. Krop/J. O'Neil

B. Kiopiji. O Nell (B) A. & B. Singh J. Fisher/B. Beardsley (B) T. Kridl/M. O'Malley H. Narasimhan/E. Barlow (BC) B. Hirsekorn/R. Heller S. Blum/H. Bennett (B) G. Leitstein/J. Samuels

Sherie's Monday Game

D. Lowe/N. Nilsson K. Kelly/C. Macey A. Pagin/M. Moutoux 3

10

M. Wu/F. Bao A. Raymond/E. Makowski 17 I. Frymire/C. Macey

B. Varner/L. Sung S. Maisel/R. Pollak

D. Lowe/J. Janetos F. & A. Carlson

Tuesday

Alpine BC Not Submitted

Tuesday Noon BC

(AB) J. McCullough/J. Rose (C) H. Harris/E. Schmitt (ABC) G. Joel/N. Rude (AB) G. Gusman/M. Sternlieb C. Sideris/P. Krupa (B) D. Kelley/M. Mohler

J. Blake/S. Lubeck (BC) J. & M. Williams (AB) G. Joel/T. Stevens (C) É. Hellerman/B. Cahn (AB) D. Lowe/T. Hall (C) B. & L. Berg A. Mollard/J. Franke
(B) D. Kelley/N. Mohler (C) J. Stuart-Smith/J. Ford L. Mattis/T. Stevens

(BC) J. & M. Williams (AB) G. Bowling/R. Luik (AB) G. Bowling/R. Luik
(C) R. & J. Smith
(AB) C. & R. Johnson
(C) C. Karnos/M. Herbach
(AB) A. Story/E. Cowell
(C) B. & J. Stern
T. Letchfield/N. Pappas
(C) C. Karnos/M. Herbach
A. & R. Rice
(B) G. Joel/T. Stevens

(B) G. Joel/T. Stevens (C) S. Forrest/C. Lemm G. Bowling/W. Miller (B) J. Chui/A. Suares R. Smadi/F. Bao (B) D. Kelley/N. Mohler

> **Under 200 Bridge Club** Combined with Noon BC

Tuesday Night BC

J. Williams/M. Moore L. Cicolani/J. McCloy 11

H. Solleder/J. Stanczak 18 J. Williams/M. Moore

H. Solleder/J. Stanczak (AB) F. Gonzalez/H. Szejnwald B. Beardsley/F. Parsons (AB) C. Tataru/P. Cornelius

Wednesday

Bridge N Brunch

A. Templeton/H. Blume, Jr. M. O'Malley/E. Worcester F. Miller/W. Mackinnon C. Coleman/A. Levy 5

12

H. Narasimhan/W. Watson 19

H. Corbin/B. Beardsley L. Corbetta/M. Mackinnon B. Sonsini/R. Smith 26

Wed. Aft. 49er

5 M. Sternlieb/E. Langenwalter J. & R. Smith

C. Karnos/M. Herbach 12 B. & W. Sturtevant

19 C. Karnos/M. Herbach K. Cano/D. Aitchison

A. Guadie/E. Schmitt 26 V. & D. Magay

Cotton Club

6

Thursday Thursday Aft. BC

(ABC) G. Pani/J. Clark

(AB) R. Heller/M. Troster 13 B. Krop/E. Barlow (B) R. Stolee/D. Bernstein B. Sonsini/W. Watson (AB) N. Wang/J. Wu (BC) S. Barasch/D.

Armstrong
M. Yates/G. Herrick 20 (AB) N. Evans/A. Arnold (ABC) C. Lane/M. Goodman H. Narasimhan/H. Bennett (ABC) R. O'Brien/H. Szejnwald

(AB) N. Wang/D. Chang H. Narasimhan/H. Bennett (B) P. Tsu/D. Chang (B) F. Isu'D. Chang E. Herrmann/R. Chambers (B) N. Wang/J. Wu B. Krop/E. Barlow (AB) F. Miller/N. Irwin (AB) B. Baxter/M. Diamond

Sherie's BC

J. Damon/S. Barasch D. Foster/E. Smith M. Wu/R. Husain 6

13 R. Randolph/S. Anderson S. Lubeck/J. Blach J. Seiff/J. Janetos

20 S. Lubeck/J. Black F. Bao/L. Kelly D. Nieman/K. Cano N. Nilsson/J. Carollo

2.7 D. Hornback/G. Bowling R. Luik/J. Birnbaum Schwartz/C. Naar E. Gove/J. Adamiak

Easy Bridge

G. Shoen/K. Gildersleeve G. Tanner/D. Magay E. Van Campen/M. Concetta V. Howard/A. Munger L. & M. Zatz

V. Howard/A. Bialsom 1. & M. Zatz

Friday Morning BC

R. Singer/F. Miller (AB) C. McGorvin/C. Fay (B) B. Hirsekorn/R. Heller

S. Greenberg/L. Spaeth F. Parsons/M. Hafezi (B) N. Gordon/N. Pappas (B) H. Macdonell/A.

Cummings H. Narasimhan/E. Barlow F. Dickman/H. Bennett (B) L. Spaeth/H. Blume (B) C. Fay/C. McGorvin F. Dickman/H. Bennett

B. Olmo/M. Mackinnon (B) L. Spaeth/M. Brabb(B) M. Christensen/L. Welch

Friday Night Barometer

7 L. Cicolani/B. McCloy (B) J. Pahk/J. Barth

S. Greenberg/J. O'Neil (AB) L. Cicolani/B. McCloy (B) P. McFerren/C. Lazarovich (C) M. Fleisher/K. Mirchandani

(ABC) C. Gao/N. Li B. Luttrell/D. Brown (B) P. Saunders/D. Hong (C) J. Sokolov/K. Mirchandani

(AB) H. Farhi/K. Humphrey P. & X. Cheng

Saturday

One Club

M. Yates/B. Beardsley (B) J. Blake/D. Barnholt K. Harper/H. Cutting (AB) C. Lazarovich/A.

Cummings
R. Singer/F. Miller
(AB) H. Sterngold/P. Gross
(AB) M. O'Malley/E.

Worcester P. & R. Chambers P. & R. Chambers (B) R. Pollak/C. Lazarovich T. Bowman/M. Moore (BC) A. Suares/M. O'Malley (Tie-AB) D. Kuo/C.

Lazarovich (Tie) D. Nemiro/E. De Paola L. Spaeth/C. Davis (B) R. Pollak/R. Husain (C) N. & T. Cadwell

H. Bennett/F. McWilliams (AB) C. Lazarovich/D. Kuo (AB) A. Cummings/G. Drew (C) K. & L. Haze

Sunday

Sunday Aft. BC (AB) M. Moore/F. Lubais

J. Blake/D. Youssefi J. Flocks/M. Moore (B) R. Rajendran/J. Sokolov (B) J. & R. Robinson

(Tie) J. & R. Robinson (Tie) C. Brigham/B. Steele (C) A. Mollard/R. Lynch

Unit Game

Unit Game

January 23 Swiss Teams

Open
A1 C. Brigham/G. Herrick, T. Bowman/P. Saunders A2 A. Cummings/C. Lazarovich L. Frost/C. Hanel A3 D. Brown/T. Moalem R. Yuenger/D. Kroll R. Tueliger/D. Kfoli A4 C. Luhrs/R. Stein R. & J. Williams A5 M. Berg/A. Lalchandani L. Spaeth/D. Wheeler L. Spaeth/D. Wheeler A6B1 W. & J. Pomeroy J. & N. Weiss B2C1 D. & E. Ehrman E. Cowell/A. Suares B3 C. Kwiatek/F. Bao A. Templeton/C. Cole B4/6 N. & T. Cadwell E. & D. Pitzer B4/6 B. Donoghue/L. Doying E. Worcester/M. O'Malley B4/6 J. Sokolov/R. Rajendran J. Hornback/B. Luttrell

<100 MP 1 A. Story/C. Naar R. & C. Johnson 2. W. & B. Sturtevant B. & T. Dayharsh

DAY	BRIDGE CLUB	TYPE	TIME	DIRECTOR(S)	PLACE
MON	Bridge Mix	Open/Strat.		Kevin/Bonnie/Claire	
	Sherie's Monday Game	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	Sherie Greenberg	
TUES	Tuesday Noon BC	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	Walter Miller	Unity Church, YES Rm, 3391 Middlefield Rd, PA
	Alpine BC	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	Cameron Cotton	
	Kevin's Tuesday Night BC	Open/Strat.	7:00 p.m.	Kevin O'Leary	Barometer 1st Tuesday of the month
WED	Bridge 'n Brunch	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	Sherie Greenberg	
	Wed Aft. 49er	<50 M.P.	1:00 p.m	Walter Miller	Unity Church, YES Rm, 3391 Middlefield Rd, PA
	The Cotton Club	Open/Strat.	7:00 p.m.	Cameron Cotton	
THUR	Thur. Afternoon BC	Open/Strat	12:00 p.m.	Beardsley/O'Leary	
	Sherie's BC	Open/Strat.	12:30 p.m.	Sherie Greenberg	4000 Middlefield Road, Auditorium, Palo Alto
	Beginning Bridge Lessons	◆ Series	7:00 p.m.	Frank Smoot	
FRI	Easybridge!	<20 M.P.	9:00 a.m.	Carla Davis	
	Friday Morning BC	Open/Strat.	10:30 a.m.	Claire Coleman	
	Friday Night Barometer	Open/Strat.	7:30 p.m.	Claire Coleman	
SAT	One Club	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	Beardsley/O'Leary	
SUN	Sunday Afternoon BC	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	Coleman/Watson	

All games take place at 2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View unless otherwise noted.

Directors:

Bonnie Beardsley (408) 263-5953 Claire Coleman (650) 368-5917 Cameron Cotton (415) 902-7800 Carla Davis (650) 961-3731 Sherie Greenberg (650) 856-7941 Walter Miller (510) 839-5929 Kevin O'Leary (650) 279-0005 Frank Smoot (408) 732-5736 Will Watson (650) 804-1731

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

Unit 503 Web Address: http://www.paloaltobridge.com

Bridge Club Phone: (650) 940-1824

District 21 Hotline: (888) 292-4612

Dist. 21 Website: www.d21.acbl.com

Upcoming Events:

ACBL Senior Pairs, Monday, February 28, Bridge Mix Club championship, Tuesday, March 1 at noon, Alpine BC Club championship, Wednesday March 2 at 7:00 p.m., Cotton Club Sectional, Friday, March 4 at Comm. Ctr. El Cerrito Sectional, Friday, March 11 at County Expo. Ctr, San Mateo Unit Mixed Pairs, March 20 at noon, Bridge Center

No game scheduled, Sunday, March 27, Sunday Afternoon BC



Firecracker Tournament June 30 to July 4, 2005

Palo Alto Unit #503

c/o lim Turner

418 Gilbert Avenue

Menlo Park, CA 94025

TIME VALUE—DATED MATERIAL

Palo Alto Unit 503 Board:

Barbara Sonsini, President
Claire Coleman, Vice President
David Wheeler, Secretary
Chuck Lane, Treasurer
Dave Bernstein
Liz Blum
Gabriella Bowling
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