



Kibitzer

Palo Alto Unit 503

Volume XXXXIII, Issue 5

May 2005

Pros Partner Ams at Unit Game on Sunday, May 15

The popular Unit Pro-Am Pairs returns on Sunday, May 15 at 12:45 p.m. at the Bridge Center. This event will replace the usual Sunday Afternoon Bridge Club. Please make advance reservations by signing up at the Bridge Center or other clubs. Your sign-up must include a designation of your master point level, either Life Master or Non-Life Master. Players may also sign up with Will Watson at 650/804-1731 (email willwats@comcast.net) or with John Hornback at (650) 962-1109 (email johnback2@sbcglobal.net) Because this event requires pre-game planning, please observe the Wednesday, May 11 sign-up deadline and arrive at the game by 12:45 p.m..

Prior to game time the Am players will participate in a blind draw for a pro LM partner. To save time and avoid confusion, Non-Life Master players should bring a complete convention card to the event. The Life Master partner will play this card. As customary in Unit events, there will be hand records. To create a friendly atmosphere and put the players on a first name basis, players will wear name tags. Remember, this is a social event and not a time for lessons at the table. The Pro-Am in 2004 had 14 tables and the winners were Michael Fleisher and John Williams.

Players Eager for Firecracker June 30-July 4



Hello Firecrackers!! It's Palo Alto Sectional time! Mark your calendar and get your partners. We are going to set attendance records! Check out the schedule of events on our web site www.paloaltobridge.com. Pick up a flyer at the Bridge Center and other game sites. Before you know it, the Palo Alto Firecracker Sectional will be here! The tournament starts Thursday evening June 30 and concludes in the early evening on Monday, July 4.

Rickey's Hyatt, the site of the 2003 and 2004 tourney, is the site again for 2005. The chair, Alan Cummings with the help of last year's chair, Gloria Leitstein, has named the committee heads, set up the game schedule and is doing the final arrangements. The Hyatt Palo Alto is ready to serve us well. *(continued on page 4)*

Pile Up Points at STAC Week

The biannual Western Conference Spring Sectional Tournament at Clubs (STAC) is back for the sixth year. All the clubs listed in the directory on the back page, except Easy Bridge, plan to sponsor STAC games the week of May 2-8. The awards are very generous so play and play and play for multi master points. Win and you get those shiny silver master points.

The District has changed the stratification from previous years. Strata C: 0-500 master points, Strata B: 500-1500, Strata A: 1500+. All players, no matter their ranking, look forward to the good and exciting competition at STAC games, so plan now to play a lot. Obviously, the more you play, the better the chances for bigger point stacks.

Ethics by Gersh Wheeler

If your partner makes a bad bid or play, it is unethical to pick up the duplicate board and hit him, regardless of the vulnerability. Lest you think I'm being facetious, be aware that on many occasions players have come to blows, and at least two murders have been committed as a result of arguments at the bridge table.

When the ACBL was formed in 1937, one of the first considerations of the board of directors was how to handle unethical behavior. This led to publishing a list of things that were unethical. Then came a list of things you should do to welcome your opponents. Over the years, these lists got longer, but unethical behavior is still a problem. Basically there is only one rule of ethical behavior: **DON'T DO ANYTHING THAT YOU WOULD RESENT IF YOUR OPPONENT OR PARTNER DID THE SAME THING.** Does this sound like the Golden Rule? Well, why not!

Closely related to ethics, but not really part of the same problem is the desire to make your opponents feel comfortable. The ACBL doesn't want to lose members who might quit if they don't enjoy the game. But how far do you go to ensure their enjoyment? If you bid badly and give your opponents a top, they might enjoy it, but obviously, the ACBL is not suggesting that you do this deliberately.

These are some things that can and should be done. Some are even specified in the laws of the game, but are frequently neglected. For example, the laws state that every player must have a convention card, properly filled out, on the table. Unfortunately, many players don't bother to fill out a card. Even when they do, I find it difficult to read my opponent's card when she's sitting on it.

If you would like your opponents to be friendly, make it easier for them to do so. PRINT your name on your card, and maybe next time you come to their table, they will greet you by name. If you have a name tag, wear it. This encourages friendship.

Remember, it's still a competition. If your opponents make an error, such as an insufficient bid, it is perfectly legitimate and not unethical to take advantage of it. But it's also still a game to be enjoyed in a friendly atmosphere. If your partner makes an error, don't punish him by overbidding on the next hand. Players make mistakes, mainly, because they are not very good players. There are very few really good players, just as there are very few really good doctors, teachers or plumbers. Even though you always play perfectly, don't expect perfection from everyone else. Was the game created for man, or was man created for the game?

More Points to Ponder re Ethics/Conduct:

1. It is appropriate for one to compliment the opponent's bidding or play at the table. One should compliment one's partner in private.
2. Pass boards in a timely manner and, if running late, give a board to the next table so that the next table will not have to come and get it from you.
3. If you are the first to lead, play a card, then write the contract onto your score sheet. Save detailed conversations about a hand until after the session is over.
4. Don't snap your cards on the table or flip them on the table.
5. Don't read out loud the results of a board, or make comments such as "top board for us". Other tables near you can hear and the opponents can find out they got a bottom board without your saying so.

Table Talk



Unit Board Meeting Yes, c h a n g e d again! The meeting will now be held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 3:45 p.m. at the Bridge Center.

The dates for the next three months are April 26, May 24, June 28.

Membership Meeting The Unit held its annual Membership Meeting on Sunday, March 20 at the Bridge Center. There were no items on the agenda.

Survey Alan Cummings reports that he has received over 260 surveys, a 40% response with more to come. The responses have been quite positive with lots of good suggestions. The Long Range Planning met on April 15 to discuss the results and began preparing a report to the Board of Directors. Thanks to all who have responded and let's hope we hear from more of you. Look for more about the survey in next month's *Kibitzer*.

Chairs Thanks go to Claire Coleman and Chuck Lane for selecting and procuring 100 new chairs for the Bridge Center.

Ace-Mini The Unit has posted the 2005 Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenny race standings as of March 31 on the Bridge Center bulletin board.

Local girls make good—Hansa Narasimhan and her team did it again at the Spring Nationals in Pittsburgh by winning the Women's Swiss Teams. Mary Ann Berg and her team made a fabulous showing at the same tournament by making it to the quarterfinals of the Vanderbilt. Congratulations!

Letter to the Editor

I want to compliment and thank the Bridge Center for its wonderful facilities and the work that goes into maintaining it. It is very light, airy, clean and especially pleasant with the addition of the new chairs. The directors are all cordial, efficient and friendly. However, there are some new players, who are also new at duplicate, who feel intimidated there and consequently don't come. Perhaps it would be a good idea for the more experienced and regular players to include them in conversation, when they first sit down. It's important to make them feel comfortable for their initial experiences, so that they will return and enjoy the Center, as I do.

Ruth Ann Lynch

Mixed Pairs Title Goes to the Spaeths

Grant and Lori Spaeth won over 30 other pairs at the Unit Mixed Pairs held Sunday, March 20. First in B went to Ginger Herrick and Dave Bernstein and Irving and Susana Krulevitch topped the C strata. All but 5 pairs qualified for the overall awards, for which only mixed pairs were eligible. The rest of the overall winners are in the list on the Winners Circle page.

The St. Patrick's festivities prevailed with players wearing their green and name tags with an Irish theme, designed by John Hornback.

Newcomers

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members: Stan Leopard, Lois Perry and Frank Roberts Hello, to Beatrice Balnys, who has transferred into our Unit.

Win Extra Points at Junior Fund Game

The Palo Alto Unit has designated May as Junior Fund Month. The ACBL will award 100% sectionally rated black points for these special games. The date for a Junior Fund game is Friday, May 20, at 10:30 a.m. at Friday Morning BC.



Firecracker Tournament—continued

Intermediate/Novice, for those with under 200 master points, and Open Pairs games are on the program every day. Bracketed Knockout Teams will play Friday and Saturday. The Saturday schedule will again include three playing sessions; morning, afternoon and evening. Bridge addicts with lots of stamina can even play in all three! New this year is a Compact Knockout on Sunday, July 3. This format is great fun and silver point awards are generous. July 4 features the popular two-session Swiss Teams. All of the games will offer great competition, good fun and friendship.

Partnerships: Ginger Herrick, Hospitality: Mary Ann Larkin, Caddies: Lorna Corbetta, Set Up/Take Down: Alan Cummings. Please volunteer. We need lots of volunteers! The committee chairs are all waiting to hear from you! Give Alan a call (650) 619-6664 or email alanc@bonair.stanford.edu

The Unit will publish the complete game schedule in the June *Kibitzer*. The Unit wishes all players, "Happy Bridge at the Firecracker!"

Noticed how sparkling clean the Bridge Center now is? Marge Yates led a cleanup team on Saturday. Her crew: Maria Brabb, Robin and Pat Chambers, Alan Cummings, Nita Girand, Lee and Kevin Haze, Ginger Herrick, Martie Moore, Kevin O'Leary, Julianne Robinson, Jan Samuels, Alice Simpson, Barbara Sonsini, Lori Spaeth, and Betsy Steele. Thanks to all of them—you thank them also!

The ACBL April reports show that the following players have moved up. Congratulations!

Player Advancements

<u>Junior Master</u> 5 MP	Marcella Atherton, Garth Wilson
<u>Club Master</u> 20 MP	Linda Cook, Betty Dayharsh, Dori Foster
<u>Sect'l Master</u> 100 MP	Joan Bower, Geeske Joel, Eugene Kates, John Williams
<u>NABC Master</u> 200 MP	John Mattis, Lee Tsai
<u>Life Master</u> 300 MP	Linda Mattis, Eric Mayefsky, Mei Wu
<u>Silver LM</u> 1000 MP	Paul Cornelius



March 2005 Winners' Circle



Individual game results are at www.paloaltobridge.com

Sunday

Sunday Aft. BC

- 6 A. Cummings/A. Levy
E. Worcester/M. O'Malley
- 13 M. Brabb/M. Larkin
- 20 Unit Game
- 27 J. O'Neil/K. Harper
F. Lubais/M. Moore

Monday

Bridge Mix

- 7 H. Narasimhan/E. Barlow
(B) B. Hirsekorn/D. Wheeler
J. Flocks/W. Pomeroy
(AB) J. Tseng/P. Tsu
- 14 G. Herrick/M. Hafezi
(B) J. Robinson/J. Von Gehr
(AB) D. Wheeler/P. Tsu
- 21 I. Frymire/C. Macey
(ABC) J. McCullough/U.
Rose
(ABC) N. Nilsson/J. Carollo
- 28 M. Yates/C. Brigham
(B) G. Herrick/P. Tsu
L. Foss/C. Dietz
(B) K. Shaw/G. Leitstein

Sherie's Monday Game

- 7 J. Adamiak/E. Gove
N. Irwin/N. Brubaker
- 14 J. McCullough/J. Rose
N. Nilsson/J. Franke
- 21 I. Frymire/C. Macey
N. Nilsson/J. Carollo
- 28 G. Spaeth/J. Stuart-Smith
E. Gove/J. Adamiak

Tuesday

Alpine BC

- 1 M. Brabb/R. Kilgren
G. Drew/T. Bowman
E. McCarthy/S. Blum
M. & T. Sato
(B) M. Foti/K. Hergatt
(B) R. O'Brien/D. Bernstein
(B) N. Pappas/S. O'Donnell
(B) M. Moutoux/A. Pagin
(C) C. Lane/M. Goodman
(C) D. Duncan/C. Binasik
(C) L. Weiss/J. Leaver
- 8 M. Yates/G. Herrick
C. Lane/M. Goodman
H. Macdonell/M. Wilson
L. Weiss/M. Diamond
(B) D. Peacock/P. Levine
(C) M. Adams/C. Anderson
- 15 M. Larkin/J. Robinson
M. & T. Sato
M. Brabb/R. Kilgren
H. Corbin/P. Chambers
(B) J. Bridges/C. Binasik
(B) H. Silver/R. Heller
(B) D. Peacock/P. Levine
(B) J. Vu/D. Chang
(C) E. Moley/J. Carollo
- 22 D. & G. Wheeler
J. O'Neil/J. Schoenbrun
A. Arnold/S. Morley
H. Sung/M. Sterngold
(B) P. Kueffer/L. Frye
(B) D. Chang/B. Chu
(C) D. Peacock/P. Levine
(C) C. Lane/G. Spaeth
(C) E. Moley/J. Carollo
(C) A. Foti/K. Hergatt

- 29 M. Yates/G. Herrick
N. Vang/J. Vu
R. Pollak/A. Raymond
N. Nilsson/F. Falner
(B) M. Chen/C. Lin
(C) M. Marx/C. Macey

Tuesday Noon BC/Under 200 BC

- 1 D. Hornback/A. Mollard
(BC) C. Karnos/M. Herbach
(ABC) J. & R. Smith
M. Wu/E. Barlow
(B) A. Gaudie/E. Schmitt
(ABC) B. & J. Stern
- 8 L. Mattis/F. Bao
(B) L. Whelan/M. Soltz
(C) K. Smith/J. Vadasz
G. Solveson/A. Rice
(B) G. Bowling/R. Luik
(C) J. Yelland/N. Rude
E. Barlow/M. Wu
(B) G. Gusman/M. Sternlieb
(AB) D. Kelley/N. Mohler
(C) D. Ryan/J. Schwartz
(ABC) C. Karnos/M. Herbach
- 15 J. Keehan/E. Kates
(B) A. Wolman/J. Bower
(C) B. & T. Dayharsh
M. O'Leary/J. Clark
(B) G. Gusman/M. Sternlieb
(BC) B. & J. Stern
- 22 L. Mattis/C. Naar
(B) J. McCullough/J. Rose
(C) J. Schwartz/B.
Scheidtmann
P. Krupa/C. Sideris
(BC) B. Kates/P. Clermont
M. O'Leary/J. Clark
(B) J. Mattis/J. Dammann
(AB) G. Joel/T. Stevens
- 29 D. Doolittle/D. Stowell
(B) J. McCullough/J. Rose
(C) C. Lemm/S. Forrest
(AB) N. & T. Ito
(C) D. Jones/B. Durey
(AB) G. Gusman/M. Sternlieb
(C) H. Harris/E. Schmitt
C. Sideris/A. Mollard
(B) J. Adamiak/R. Smadi
(C) B. & J. Stern

Tuesday Night BC

- 1 P. Kamas/L. Frost
(BC) K. O'Leary/F. Gonzalez
- 8 H. Solleder/J. Stanczak
(ABC) M. Harris/R. Bestock
- 15 L. Cicolani/J. McCloy
(BC) A. Desu/F. Lubais
- 22 H. Solleder/J. Stanczak
(BC) K. O'Leary/F. Pollak
(AB) F. Gonzalez/H.
Szejnwald
(AB) J. Harpootlian/R. Haines
(ABC) C. Lazarovici/A.
Simpson

Wednesday

Bridge N Brunch

- 2 L. Spaeth/H. Blume
C. & R. Raghavam
- 9 J. O'Neil/R. Chambers
R. Williams/C. Riffle
- 16 M. Yates/H. Solleder
J. Flocks/T. Moalem
- 23 M. Hafezi/R. Chambers
C. Riffle/R. Williams
- 30 C. Riffle/R. Williams

Wed. Aft. 49er

- 2 G. & G. Fong
G. Duffie/M. Savoie
- 9 A. Gaudie/E. Schmitt
G. Duffie/M. Savoie
- 16 B. Scheidtmann/G. Joel
B. & W. Sturtevant
- 23 C. Karnos/M. Herbach
M. Radin/B. Thayer
- 30 G. & G. Fong
N. Rude/R. McComb

Cotton Club

- 2 C. Riffle/R. Williams
M. Andrews/S. Johnston
(B) D. Allison/A. Lam
(B) J. Parks/L. Lettis
(C) M. Harris/R. Bestock
- 9 M. Brabb/M. Moore
A. Cummings/H. Macdonell
(B) A. & D. Foti
(C) J. Parks/L. Lettis
- 16 F. Gonzalez/R. O'Brien
S. Cagnina/J. Stanczak
(B) L. Lettis/J. Parks
(C) M. Harris/R. Bestock
- 23 G. Porter/J. Rollin
C. Davis/E. Tanck
(B) F. Gonzalez/C. Tataru
C. Karnos/F. Lubais
- 30 M. & B. O'Hara
C. Davis/E. Tanck
(B) G. Drew/C. Lazarovici
(B) J. Ohme/H. Bailey
(C) R. O'Brien/H. Szejnwald

Thursday

Thursday Aft. BC

- 3 B. Sonsini/W. Watson
(B) J. Tseng/B. Hsu
(AB) M. Chen/B. Chu
(C) C. Lane/M. Goodman
(AB) G. Wheeler/G. Drew
B. Schneider/S. Kirshenbaum
(B) J. Robinson/C. Fay
(C) M. Goodman/C. Lane
- 17 R. Stolee/L. Spaeth
(B) M. Chen/R. Pollak
D. Rothschild/B. Schneider
(BC) G. Herrick/D. Bernstein
- 24 (AB) J. Tseng/M. Chen
(C) C. Lane/M. Goodman
(ABC) T. & N. Stevens
- 31 R. Stolee/T. Bowman
(B) R. Pollak/M. Chen
(AB) N. Wang/B. Chu

Sherie's BC

- 3 A. Templeton/C. Cole
R. Luik/G. Bowling
A. Suares/J. Dammann
N. Nilsson/J. Carollo
- 10 A. Templeton/H. Blume, Jr.
J. Brandon/H. Sung
I. & S. Krulevitch
M. Atherton/E. Edwards
- 17 H. Sung/A. Raymond
H. Zoellner/R. Kilner
H. Chapman/A. Story
D. Armstrong/S. Atkinson
- 24 H. Macdonell/M. Troster
A. Abston/P. Robinson
N. Cadwell/R. Palmer
N. Nilsson/J. Carollo

Friday

Easy Bridge

- 4 L. Thomas/L. Horner
D. & V. Magay
- 11 M. & M. Dowley
G. Wilson/L. Shannon
- 18 L. Thomason/L. Horner
D. Magay/F. Tanner
- 25 M. Williams/M. Atherton
I. Abrams/M. Maltz

Friday Morning BC

- 3 H. Narasimhan/E. Barlow
C. Brigham/G. Herrick
(B) M. Orelove/R. Lachman
(B) H. Macdonell/M. Wilson
(C) R. Luik/J. Birnbaum
- 10 (AB) B. Hirsekorn/R. Heller
D. Kroll/L. Yokel
- 18 K. Harper/B. Beardsley
(ABC) J. Samuels/M. Wilson
(BC) S. Morley/R. Lachman
H. Bennett/F. Dickman
(ABC) S. Morley/J. Girand
(B) A. Arnold/M. Van
Tamelen
(C) R. Lachman/D. Wheeler

Friday Night Barometer

- 4 S. Greenberg/J. O'Neil
G. Venkatesh/N. Mohanram
(B) V. Vidwans/R. Gupta
(B) B. McCloy/L. Cicolani
(C) M. Foss/M. Fleisher
(C) J. Flavin/A. Simpson
- 11 (AB) S. & C. Castellino
D. & R. Ng
(B) B. McCloy/L. Cicolani
- 18 (AB) X. Zhang/Z. He
(AB) L. Cicolani/B. McCloy
(C) G. & J. Piaget
Z. Zhang/Z. He
P. Galligan/R. Ng
(B) C. Lazarovici/P.
McFerren
(B) P. & X. Cheng

Saturday

One Club

- 5 T. Moalem/C. Colvin
(B) K. Lorimer/C. Macey
T. Bowman/M. Moore
(AB) C. Lazarovici/D. Kuo
- 12 (AB) M. Moore/J. Robinson
H. Farhi/K. Humphrey
M. Andrews/M. Moore
(AB) J. & R. Robinson
- 26 (AB) D. Kuo/C. Lazarovici
(C) M. Kelly/L. Kelly
P. & R. Chambers
(AB) D. Storm/D. Lowry

Unit Game

March 20 Mixed Pairs

- A1 L. & G. Spaeth
- A2 J. Baker/D. Youssefi
- A3 K. Talbot/Z. Mohanned
- A4 K. Humphrey/H. Farhi
- A5 F. Gonzalez/P. Saunders
- A6 G. Drew/C. Davis
- B1 G. Herrick/D. Bernstein
- B2 M. Kaufman/C. Haines
- B3/4 M. Pais/R. Siegrist
- B3/4C1 I. & S. Krulevitch
- C2 S. Atkinson/J. Hornback

DAY	BRIDGE CLUB	TYPE	TIME	DIRECTOR(S)	PLACE
MON	Bridge Mix	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	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.	1:00 p.m.	Coleman/Watson	

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

Directors:

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 Kevin O'Leary (650) 279-0005
 Frank Smoot (408) 732-5736
 Will Watson (650) 804-1731

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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:

Sectional, Friday, April 29 at Community Center, Orangevale

Western Conference STAC Week, Monday, May 2-Sunday, May 8 - all clubs
 but Easybridge

Sectional, Saturday, May 20 at Bridge Ctr, Marina

Unit Pro-Am Pairs, Sunday, May 15 at 12:45 p.m. Bridge Center, please use
 advance sign -up list.

Junior Fund Benefit Game, Friday, May at 10:30 a.m., Friday Morning BC
Regional, Monday, May 30 at Doubletree Hotel, Sacramento

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, April 26, 2005
Bridge Center, 3:45 p.m.

MAY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, May 24, 2005
Bridge Center, 3:45 p.m.

Palo Alto Unit #503

c/o Jim Turner

418 Gilbert Avenue

Menlo Park, CA 94025

TIME VALUE—DATED MATERIAL

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