



Election to Select 2008 Unit Board

The Palo Alto Unit announces its annual election of the Board of Directors for five two-year terms. Election Chair Trina Bowman names the candidates: Phyllis Gaffney, Eric Mayefsky (incumbent), Jeanette McNeil, Grant Spaeth and Dave Wheeler (incumbent). Instead of voting for the listed candidates, voters may write in the name of a candidate. The winners will form the 2008 Board with the current members: Mike Atherton, Trina Bowman, Nita Girand, Susana Krulevitch, Steve Lubeck and Alan Templeton.

The *Kibitzer* has printed photos, candidate information and statements on pages 4 and 5 with a ballot and voting instructions. Beginning November 1, ballots, envelopes and boxes will be at every game site to make voting easy for Unit members. Follow the directions on the ballot to vote by mail or email. The Unit must receive all ballots by Tuesday, December 2.

Pot Luck, Awards, Bridge In Store Sun. Nov. 23

Many wonderful Thanksgiving-like goodies will greet players at the Bridge Center on Sunday November 23. Festivities get underway at 12 p.m. with a Thanksgiving pot luck with turkey and so much more delicious food. Then, the Trophy Chair, Eric Mayefsky, will reveal the long-awaited winners of the annual Sportsmanship and Service awards. At last, at 1 p.m. the players will get down to the bridge game with separate open and 99er sections.



Please provide a dish for the pot luck. The Unit will provide turkey with all the trimmings, stuffing and gravy, so please choose to bring either an appetizer, side dish, salad or dessert. Players, please sign up at one of our local games, indicating your preference for either open or 99er flights. Participants may also contact the Bridge Center at 650 940-1824 or email michaelatherton@sbcglobal.net.

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Whoop It Up at December 7 Unit Party



The Unit will celebrate with bridge and dinner on Sunday, December 7 at the Bridge Center. The game will start at 2 p.m.; dinner follows. Before the game gets underway, the election chair, Trina Bowman will announce the election results for the 2008 Board of Directors.

Mike Atherton, our Unit Game Chair, will post sign ups at your local club in November. Space is limited to 70 Unit pairs; both must be Unit 503 members. Please sign up your partnership *early*. Else you may contact the Bridge Center at 650/940-1824 or email michaelatherton@sbcglobal.net. If there is still room after the Monday, December 1 sign-up deadline, the Unit will invite players from outside the Unit. Put this great event on your calendar now! More details will be available in the next *Kibitzer*.

The Unit is asking members to bring an unwrapped new toy as a donation, which will go to local charities.

Unit Swiss - a Sure Winner Again

Once more the players showed that Swiss Teams is a favorite. The September 14 Unit event had 28 teams, 24 in the open flight and four in the 99er. The leader in the open was the Hamish Bennett team with Frances Dickman, Greg House and Andrew Kridl. The top scorer in B was the Lou Frost team with Carencay Hanel, Carla Davis and Elinor Tanck and the victor in C was the Valerie Baldwin team with Carolyn Chaney, Laura Ginger Tanner and Vera Howard. The team of Jeanine Ardourel with Bill Epperly, Kirsten Gildersleeve and Claire Shoens took the honors in the 99ers.

Special appreciation goes to the directors Will Watson and Kevin O'Leary and the set-up and clean-up team of Alice Arnold, Carolyn Lemm, Lynn Johnston, Steve Lubeck and Bill Epperly.

Play of the Hand Subject of November Lectures

On two November Thursday mornings, the 6th and the 20th, Dave Bernstein will talk on "Suit Combinations" at 10 a.m.

He will focus on ways that a player can try to analyze a combination in real time at the table. For example with the holding: AQ10 8 opposite xxx, the correct play depends on the number tricks required i.e. 4 or 3 or 2. The lectures will not emphasize a large number of combinations to look up or memorize, but there will be some references given for those who want to explore further. Please take advantage of these freebies at the Bridge Center to improve your play. And circle December 11th on your calendar for DRURY with Lori Spaeth.

Cardinal DBC - The Thursday eve game site is now Meyer Library, 560 Escondido Mall, Stanford. This is a permanent, well-lit, stable venue in a central campus location. Complete directions and information are available on the website, www.cardinalclub.stanford.edu.

Monday Bridge - The Bridge Mix and Palo Alto bridge clubs have combined. On Monday, October 5, they became one super club. They offer (an) open section(s) offering more masterpoints than before and (a) limited (<2000) masterpoint section(s). There will continue to be a separate director for each.

Bridge Pads - The Unit Board has approved the purchase of 40 Bridge Pad units with a five-year maintenance contract.

Teach Bridge in Local Schools - One of the primary goals of the Unit Education Fund is to create interest in bridge at the "junior" level. It is the future of our game! The committee is interested in hearing from Unit members who would introduce and teach bridge in our middle and high schools. Contact alan.cummings@stanford.edu to join your friends in giving to the game and to our community. Next month we will give you details on making tax-deductible donations to perpetuate our Unit Education Fund.



Etiquette - Be ready to play on time. It is not OK to appear ten minutes after the scheduled start. Showing up late even if you have called is not sufficient. Be ready to play five minutes before game time! It is your job to pass your boards quickly at the end of the round.

Awards - The current standings as of September 1 for the Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenney Awards are on the Bridge

Center Bulletin Board.

Bridge Center Art - The watercolor artist, Terri Hill is affiliated with Allied Artists West, Santa Clara Watercolor Society California Watercolor Association, among others. Backgrounds in photography, marketing, advertising and graphics have influenced her paintings. "I love to paint and I paint what I love... food, floral western, and sport themes call to me to be captured."

Winners' Circle Online: Thanks to the help of one of our frequent players, Victor Chubukov, we now have the Winners' Circle online. Players can now see the overall winners of each game each day using the link at the left under **Games** or directly from our Game Results page.

Library - Check the unit web site for a current list of books available for loan. Leave your book donations under the front table for friends to enjoy.

Bridge Bits



On Sunday, October 5, the Unit held a two-session NAP Unit Final. The best score in strata A and B went to the partnership of Qing Yan and Bin Dai with Metin Gokcen and Sadik Art holding the lead in C. Among the 19 eligible pairs, these nine Unit members qualified for the district final at the Bayshore BC, January 17-19: Tahir Gokcen, Donald Rothschild, Henryk Szejnwald, Franklin Gonzalez, Richard Williams, Jody Williams,

**NAP Final
Qualifies
Nine Unit Members**



Meet the Candidates, then VOTE

Grant, who is married to Lori, is a long time area resident, having attended Palo Alto High and Stanford. He obtained a law degree at Harvard, then returned here to private practice. Grant is a golf nut and was President of the United States Golf Association in the nineties. He has helped the Unit with legal advice and now states, "Having enjoyed the Club immensely, I am ready to do my bit to help the enterprise prosper".



C. Grant Spaeth

Dave's parents played in the Unit for many years and Dave started playing over 40 years ago. But he stopped when his kids and job took too much time. Now he's playing again!!! Dave was Unit Secretary (2004-07) and is currently President. He and won the Sportsmanship Trophy in 2007. He is looking forward to continuing on the Board of Directors. He believes that if you're going to take advantage of an organization you should contribute to it as well.



Dave Wheeler

Official Ballot – 2008 Election - Unit 503

Select no more than five (5) candidates.

Phyllis Gaffney ___ Eric Mayefsky (incumbent) ___ Jeannette McNeil ___
 C. Grant Spaeth ___ Dave Wheeler (incumbent) ___

Write Ins _____

Only a ballot received in a sealed envelope with a legible signature on the outside is valid.

Deposit ballot in box at your local club or mail it to

Trina Bowman 1698 Miller Ave Los Altos CA 94024-5323

or vote by sending a list of names by email to trinabowman@att.net

All ballots must be received by Tuesday, December 2.

It Seems To Me

By Gersh

Your left-hand opponent is dealer and bids 1 ♥. Your partner hesitates for a few seconds and then passes. Your RHO passes. You hold about thirteen high-card points and a stopper in hearts. On your convention card a 1 NT overcall in the balancing positions is indicated as showing 11-14 HCP. What do you do? I have asked this question of about twenty players and was surprised at the variability in answers. At one extreme was Eva Herrmann who said she would pass whenever her partner had made a slow pass. At the other extreme were a few players who said they would ignore partner's hesitation and bid just as if there were no hesitation. Other replies were that a response might be based on who the opponents were or on how our game was going.

My own feeling is that I agree with Eva. To bid 1 NT here is probably good match-point procedure, but it might turn out to be a disaster. However, after your partner's hesitation, the NT bid has a better than even chance of being successful. This knowledge is the result of unauthorized information. Your opponents may even think that you based your call on the hesitation. This is unpleasant even though no one says so.

Hesitations always cause problems, even when they are followed by bids. Now you know your partner's bid is limited. You should make every effort to avoid hesitating. The best way is to look at your hand and decide beforehand what you will do over any bid. This is sometimes difficult but not impossible.

There is one situation where the hesitation does not convey unauthorized information. That is when the pass is forcing. Consider this situation:

<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>W</u>
1 ♥	1 ♠	2 ♥	2 ♠
Pass	pass	3 ♥	pass
Pass	3 ♠	pass	pass
4 ♥	<i>pass</i>		

East was willing to play at 2 ♠, but he bid 3 ♠ over his opponent's 3 ♥. He could have let the opponents play at 3 ♥. By bidding he may drive them to a makeable 4 ♥ contract. Therefore, his 3 ♠ bid says that if the opponents bid game, he is prepared to punish them. His pass over 4 ♥ is an order to partner to double or to bid 4 ♠. If he hesitates before passing, the pass is still forcing.

Palo Alto Unit 503 Board

Dave Wheeler, President
Susana Krulevitch, Secretary
Alan Templeton, Treasurer

Mike Atherton, Gabriella Bowling, Trina
Bowman Alan Cummings, Nita Girand,
Ginger Herrick, Steve Lubeck,
Eric Mayefsky

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Tuesday, November 4th at 3:45 p.m.

Attention Players!

How often do you read more than game results on the Unit's web site? Here's a preview of a wonderful article by our own Sue Johnston to be found in totality on the web site, www.paloaltobridge.com. Sue has developed detailed information for each of the underlined subject areas below. Way to go, Sue!!!

Common Director Decisions And Helpful Information for New Duplicate Bridge Players

Would you like a refresher course on reading the recap sheet or scoring? Some of the handouts are now available on line. Remember, the players don't need to know all the laws. When something goes wrong at the table, **call the director!**

- ["We Can't All Sit East-West!"](#) Someone must keep score. Learn how to fill out a traveler or a pick-up slip.
- ["Matchpoint Theory 101"](#). Learn what all those numbers and marks on the recap sheet mean.
- ["That's Insufficient"](#). Your RHO made an insufficient bid. What should you do? Call the director, of course.
- ["Opening Call Out of Turn - What Now?"](#)
- ["Lead Out of Turn - What Now?"](#)
- ["It's a Penalty Card - Or Is It?"](#) Do you know your options when a penalty card is on the table?
- ["Oops! I Want a Do-Over!"](#). You messed up and called the wrong card from dummy, pulled out the wrong bid card, or played the wrong card out of your hand. What now?
- ["My Partner Didn't Alert - What Now?"](#). Your partner forgot to alert a bid. What should you do?
- ["Oops! I Forgot!"](#). You forgot your partnership was playing a new convention and you used the old bid. What are your ethical obligations?

Player Advancements

The ACBL October report shows that the players named below have moved up.

Junior Master	5 MP	Frances Green, Puliur Santhanam
Club Master	20 MP	Karen Prak
Sectional Master	50 MP	Omer Barnir, Subramanyam Chitti, Evelyn Kamas, Kathy Puryear, Alice Wallace, Diane Weissman
Regional Master	100 MP	Valerie Baldwin, Annette Bialson, Barbara Durey, Elena Grewal, Fran Rappaport, Kate Smith
NABC Master	200 MP	Phoebe Korn, George Paris
Life Master	300 MP	Stan Charney, Curtis Pryor
Bronze Life Master	500 MP	Priscilla Cadwell, Frederick Carlson, Christian Lazarovici, Henryk Szejnwald, Lynne Whelan

SYMPATHY

The Unit board and members extend their sincere condolences to the family and friends of Unit member Carl Henkels, who recently passed away.

All games take place at 2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View 94043 unless otherwise noted.

DAY	BRIDGE CLUB	TYPE	TIME	DIRECTOR(S)	PLACE/OTHER INFO
MON	Bridge Mix	Open/<2K	11:00 a.m.	Kevin/Bonnie/ Claire/John	
TUES	Tuesday Noon BC	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	Walter Miller	Unity Church, YES Rm, 3391 Middlefield Rd, PA
	Alpine BC	Open/<1K	12:00 p.m.	Will Watson	
	Just For Fun	Begin./Inter.	7:00 p.m.	Solna/Omer	No master points given. Call Solna at (408) 685-5323
WED.	Bridge 'n Brunch	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	Sue Johnston	
	Wed Aft. 49er	<50 M.P.	1:00 p.m.	Walter Miller	Unity Church, YES Rm, 3391 Middlefield Rd, PA
	Lori & Sue's Dblton Club	Open/Strat.	7:00 p.m.	Spaeth/Johnston	
	Lori & Sue's Dblton Club	<50 M.P.	7:00 p.m.	Spaeth/Johnston	
THUR	Thur. Afternoon BC	Open/Strat	12:00 p.m.	Beardsley/Mattis	
	Sherie's BC	Open/Strat.	12:30 p.m.	Sherie Greenberg	4000 Middlefield Road, Auditorium, Palo Alto
	Cardinal DBC at Stanford	<50 M.P.	7:00 p.m.	Eric Mayefsky	Meyer Library, 560 Escondido Mall, Stanford
	Cardinal DBC at Stanford	Open	7:00 p.m.	Eric Mayefsky	Meyer Library, 560 Escondido Mall, Stanford
FRI	The EZ Game	<30 M.P.	9:00 a.m.	Kathy Harper	
	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.	John Prior	
SUN	Sunday Afternoon BC	Open/Strat.	1:00 p.m.	Coleman/Watson	

SPECIAL EVENTS

- * Unit lecture, Thursday, October 23 at 10 a.m., Bridge Center
- * Unit Barometer game, Sunday, October 26 at 1 p.m. Bridge Center
- * Sectional, Thursday, October 30 at Bridge Center, Fresno
- * Sectional, Saturday, Nov. 1, at El Cerrito, Community Ctr
- * Club championship, Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 7 p.m. Doubleton BC
- * Unit lecture, Thursday, November 6 at 10 a.m., Bridge Center
- * Sectional, Saturday, Nov. 8, at San Ramon, Iron Horse Middle School
- * Club championship, Wednesday, Nov. 12, at 11 a.m. Bridge 'n Brunch
- * Club championship, Thursday, Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. Cardinal DBC
- * Upgraded club champ. Friday, Nov. 14 at 10:30 a.m., Friday Morning BC
- * Unit lecture, Thursday November 20 at 10 a.m., Bridge Center
- * Sportsmanship Pot Luck, Sunday, Nov. 23 at Noon, Bridge Center
- * Unit Pairs, Open and 99er Flights, Sunday Nov. 23 at 1 p.m., Bridge Center

Club Closings

- * Thursday, November 27, Thanksgiving, Thurs. Afternoon BC, Sherie's BC, Cardinal DBC
- * Friday, November 28, Friday Morning BC

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