

Newsletter of Palo Alto Unit 503 of the American Contract Bridge League Volume XLVI, Issue 10, October, 2008

Check Out a Unique Game at the October Unit Event

October 26th Sunday Game to be BAROMETER

The Unit game schedule aims to give players a chance to play in different types of bridge games not usually offered at the clubs or tournaments, i.e. mixed pairs, non mixed pairs, pro-ams etc. On Sunday, October 26, at 1 p.m., the Unit will hold a barometer game at the Bridge Center. If you haven't previously tried a barometer, go to page 5 to read the details. Then come play and discover the thrill of seeing your name posted among the leaders as the afternoon progresses.

The game will have separate sections: open and 99ers, each with its own director and scoring. The fee will be \$8 per player. Please use the sign-up sheet at your local club. Great goodies, exciting competition, friendly players, name tags, hand records and more at this October Unit function. As previously, Mike Atherton will handle the organization; find him at michaelatherton@sbcglobal.net.

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Each year for over 50 years, the Unit has awarded a member the sportsmanship trophy for friendship, a pleasant attitude and the practice of active ethics. And starting in 2006, it has presented a plaque for service to the Unit. The committee of Eric Mayefsky, Dave Wheeler and Lori Spaeth will select the recipients. They invite members to offer names of players who should receive these two awards.

If you wish to submit names, specify which award and email Eric at mayefsky@stanford.edu. Boxes will also be available at the Bridge Center, Unity Church and Cubberley for players to offer suggestions before the October 15 deadline. The Unit will award the trophy and plaque at the Sportsmanship pot luck and trophy game on Sunday, November 23.

Sportsmanship and
Service Awards
Search
is Underway

Unit Holds NAP Final October 5

The NAP Unit final on October 5 at 1:15 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. will be a two-session qualifier for Strata A, B, C for the District 21 Finals. Sign up with Will Watson (650) 804-1731, will-wats@comcast.net or on the list on the Bridge Center bulletin board. The District finals will be at the Bayshore BC in Burlingame on Saturday, Jan. 17 – Monday, January 19.

Ready, Set,



The Unit election is fast approaching. To date, there are five candidates: two incumbents, Eric Mayefsky and Dave Wheeler plus Phyllis Gaffney, Jeanette McNeil and Grant Spaeth.

The election chair, Trina Bowman, announces that ballot boxes will be available at the three game locations after November 1. The November *Kibitzer* will feature the candidates' photos and bios along with the ballot and voting instructions.

Counting the Hand Highlights October Lectures

The first two lectures of the Unit Education Fund lecture series, made possible by tax-free donations to our Educational Fund from members of our Unit and chaired by Geeske Joel, are complete. We hope that you enjoyed the information given and learned some new rules, tricks and ideas.

For October we have a special treat for all of us. Jim Leuker will come down from San Francisco to talk to us about counting out hands during the play, one of the biggest challenges for advancing bridge players. He has given similar lectures in Santa Cruz with great success so please mark your calendar and take advantage of the opportunity to learn and advance your play.

Thursday, October 9, 10 a.m.: Jim Leuker on "Counting the Hand: High Card Points."

Thursday, October 23, 10 a.m.: Jim Leuker on: "Counting the Hand: Distribution."

SYMPATHY

The Unit board and members extend their sincere condolences to the family and friends of Unit members, Louise Spain from Easybridge, and Mary Ritter, who both recently passed away; also, condolences to Marilyn Taketa and her family on the recent death of her daughter, Michelle.

The Unit Bridge Library will officially open Monday, Sept. 22. We currently have over 250 books available to the Unit's members. Players may check out books for a maximum of three weeks with a limit of two books at a time. Find a listing of all the books on the Unit's website.

Anyone interested in checking out a book should first send an email request to the Unit's Librarian at bridgelibrary@gmail.com. You may subsequently pick up requested books at the Bridge Center only on Monday or Tuesday. The library cases will remain locked on other days.

For those who do not have access to a computer, there is a printed list of the books near the library bookcases. During lunch breaks or prior to the game, players may request specific books by signing their names and email addresses.

Thank you to all those who have donated books so far and we are looking forward to more donations. Look through your bookcases and boxes and pull out bridge books for the library.

It's an amazing fact that, of the 230 bridge books which have been donated to the Unit, two thirds come from one individual. Clara Sideris' daughter, Julia Liua, is kindly sharing her Mother's collection with us. Clara was an avid reader; she loved bridge books, magazines and biographies. She played daily with her many bridge friends and traveled extensively to tournaments with her partner, Pat Krupa. Pat reports that in addition to sharing a bridge addiction, Clara's wonderful sense of humor sweetened their partnership. Julia assures us that her Mother would be very proud to know that her collection helped to launch the Unit library.

We've Done It!

Bridge Resources
for Bibliophiles
Now Readily

Available!

Clara Sideris
has Shared Her
Bridge Book
Collection with Us!

On Sunday, August 24, the Unit players had a great time with many fantastic goodies and, of course, bridge, to recognize the Unit's start on January 14, 1957. (Yes, better late than never!) Special thanks to Claire who directed both open and 99ers and to Elinor Tanck for organizing, hosting and picking up cake and champagne. We also thank Ida Lee for the Chinese chicken salad, Fabian for the cheese buffet, Claire for the fruit salad and everyone for attending and making this a happy 50th celebration. The Unit honored the original Unit members present: Carla Davis, Gene Drew, Virginia Fenerin, Jerry Smith, Gersh Wheeler and John and Miriam White.

The bridge honors went to Ginger Herrick and Trina Bowman, first overall in A and to Mike Atherton and Steve Lubeck in B, C. The 99er applause was for Mike and Susan Stiege in A, Bob Bernard and Peggy Wheeler in B

Unit Celebrates its Birthday with a Grand Party!



Table Talk

October Club Appreciation - All sanctioned clubs may hold a Club Appreciation Pair Game and a Club Appreciation Swiss Teams Event during the month of October with sectionally rated black and limited gold points. The Bridge 'n Brunch and Doubleton Clubs will hold pair games on Wednesday, October 8 and 15, respectively. Hopefully, other clubs will add more games to this list.

Just 4 Fun - Solna Braude and Omer Barnir, former Palo Alto Beginning Bridge Class students from a few years ago, have been wonderful "leaders" of the Tuesday night game. For no compensation, Solna and Omer advertise the JUST 4 FUN game via a weekly email to people who belong to an ever-increasing Yahoo group. They collect the \$3 per person table fee for the Bridge Center and hold the game which has had as many as eight tables. Will Watson is there after his own game and has been a wonderful addition. He supplies boards from the afternoon game, with travelers, so that new players can compare their scores with the Open players. Will also answers questions and sometimes even fills in. How lucky we are to have such people in our Unit.

The Game Must Go On - During the recent tournament in Santa Clara, several of us were driving to the Hyatt for our third session of a knockout, when we noticed a police car beside two pulled-over cars, on the side of the road. Hope that no bridge player was involved in the accident quickly disappeared. "That's our teammate!" one person shouted. "I'm sure that's Dee." As we entered the playing area, by good fortune we ran into John Hornback, Dee's husband, and alerted him. Then we went on to forfeit our match. However, the directors were insistent that we find a substitute, so they began asking around. And then suddenly, Dee appeared! She was bruised by the collision with the airbag, but the car had been towed and she was ready to play! Stalwart Dee Hornback—poised, composed, and collected—went immediately from a situation that would have crumpled most of us, into a tense knockout bridge challenge. The game must go on. And by the way, she carried our team to victory that afternoon, and in the evening as well.

Bridge classes—Proof that the Unit's highly successful lessons are known throughout the ACBL could be the reason we received a registration from Lagos, Nigeria. Anyhow, our beginners' class is full, 80 students!

The Cardinal DBC at Stanford—is no longer meeting at the Bridge Center. Contact Eric Mayefsky <u>mayefsky@stanford.edu</u> for further information on future game locations.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, October 7th at 3:45 p.m.

A barometer game is a pairs game with instant gratification or dismay for the players. The director has pre-duplicated many sets of boards prior to the game. Every pair plays the same board at the same time. To accomplish this, two tables share a set of boards and one table plays a board while the second table plays another and then they exchange.

All scores for a given set of boards are available as soon as the round is over, and there is much excitement when the director posts the score and the names of those leading. Each pair knows where it stands at all times. The name "Barometer" derives from the rise and fall of a pair's fortune as the game goes on. If you want to see barometer in action drop in for a few moments at the Friday night game at the Bridge Center.

Barometer Game, What's That?

Many myriad thank you's to Gabriella Bowling who was truly inspired by the concept of Doublement everything!! She prepared all of our green delicacies: casseroles, tea sandwiches, dips and desserts. She appeared as a Doublement twin while directing the game and pouring champagne! She also was able to stick to her promise of hand records and double masterpoints to double our pleasure! Many more thanks to George Paris who brought in the drinks, tended bar and snapped some great photos....to Joyce Sogg and Margie Sterngold who doubled up on table and party favor setup and seating assignments....to Vera Howard who made it all happen in record time, and to Claire Coleman who headed our KP (kitchen police) detail...Don't ask!

The game consisted of an 18 board match, with Claire Coleman and Josephine Ventura taking first in A and Leslie Kelly and Lynne Louise Johnson winning the B's.

As for me, it was heartening to see the warm interaction between Mentors and Mentees. However, the most meaningful reward came one week later when I scanned the Winners' list from the All Western Regional in Santa Clara, which began the day after our tea. Every Mentee who attended our tea, then played in the Regional walked away with some number of red points! Congratulations!! Mentor Magic really lives!

Doublement Tea Wrap-up

By Barbara Sonsini

NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto
 Unit 503 members: Jay Ladenheim, Sylvia Ladenheim, Gene Straube, Shane
 Combest, Brahm Levin and Deborah
 Levin.

Newcomer Games

Tuesday evening (Begin./Intermed.)
Wednesday afternoon (<50)
Wednesday evening (<50)
Thursday evening (<50)
Friday morning (<30)

A New Convention By Gersh

Partner opens with one club. Opponent passes or doubles. Using this convention your bids are:

- 1) One diamond. This shows an unspecified four-card major.
- 2) One in a major. This shows a suit of at least five cards.
- 3) Two diamonds. This shows at least five diamonds, 10 to 12 high card points, and a hand unsuited to play at no-trump. No four-card major.

All of these must be alerted. You can still play negative doubles and inverted minors.

Some examples follow. Assume opponents pass.

(a) 1 club 1 diamond

1 spade 1 no trump (must have four hearts).

(b) 1 club 1 heart 2 hearts (3 card support)

(c) 1 club 1 heart 1 no trump 2 diamonds

(This last bid is not to show a 5-card heart suit since opener knows that already. It must be a diamond suit.)

(d) 1 club 1 heart

1 spade (four spades and fewer than three hearts)

(e) 1 club 1 diamond or 1 heart or 1 spade 2 diamonds (a standard reverse)

(f) 1 club 1 diamond

2 clubs or 1NT pass

Hansa's Hints

By

Hansa Narasimhan

This will be "magic!" I am going to convert one trick into two. (North hand and other unimportant cards not shown.)

You, West

♠ 62

▲ AKQ95

♥ KT5

Declarer

★ 87

♥ AQJ96

Declarer is in four hearts. You lead your high spade and partner wins Q, K, and then plays the A. Declarer ruffs with the ♥ J. If you overruff with the K you get one trump trick, but it you refuse to overruff, you get two trump tricks! Isn't that fun!

BONNIE BEARDSLEY

By Mary van Tamelen



You just know, when you see the striking, exotic jewelry and clothing she wears, the picture that she presents, that Bonnie Beardsley is an artist. You also know, when she makes a ruling at her Monday or Thursday games,

that she is a firm director. Furthermore, you know, when you play either with or against her, that she is a fine, fine player, (5200 master points)—even though she never arranges the cards in her hand.

Both art and bridge emerged in college. Born in Tacoma, Washington, the only child of elderly parents, she attended the University of Puget Sound, where she majored in art and learned to play bridge. Before her senior year, she married her high school sweetheart, Jerry Beardsley. He joined the Navy, and for the next twenty years they moved around—Washington D.C., Hawaii, Scotland, Philadelphia, Pensacola, and Skagg's Island—and brought up their three children.

In Hawaii, with one child, Bonnie decided to go to graduate school and study weaving. Besides tak-

ing several art history courses, she kept three looms going at the same time, weaving projects and earned an MFA degree.

Meanwhile, she and Jerry were playing bridge. She went from playing the old Goren method, to strong twos, to precision, to two over one. "I never learned standard," she says.

She was "conned into directing" by Jim Woodside, and took over his games when he left. She led several bridge cruises with Faye Parsons, and she travels to tournaments whenever she can with her favorite partner, Judy Fisher. Bonnie believes "everyone should direct for six months before playing." She keeps tight control over her games; as she says, she's "not a martyr—Jerry had to behave," or else she would scream. She even told off an Admiral during a bridge game.

Bonnie's favorite activities—besides bridge—are shopping, goofing off, and going to art shows. She shares her home in Milpitas with a "labradoodle" dog, and an enormous loom. Her weavings have been shown at the prestigious "Fiber, Clay, and Metal" show in St. Paul. And although we don't get to see her weavings at the bridge club, we do get to see Bonnie herself—and she's a work of art.

Junior Master	5 MP	Eric Byler, Jim Hubbard, Kathy	
		Jacobs, Kent Peterson	
Club Master	20 MP	Arthur A Schmid	
Sectional Master	50 MP	Susan Griswold, Junfeng Yang	
Regional Master	100 MP	James Blach, Jerianne Foley	
NABC Master	200 MP	Toshio Sato, Elizabeth Tromovitch,	
		Josephine Ventura	
Life Master	300 MP	Priscilla Cadwell, Ioana Galis,	
		Belinda Gu	

Player Advancements

The ACBL July report shows that the players at the left have moved up.

Congratulations!

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

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DAY	BRIDGE CLUB	TYPE	TIME	DIRECTOR(S)	PLACE/OTHER INFO
MON	Bridge Mix	1		Kevin/Bonnie/Clair	e
	Palo Alto Bridge Club	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	John Prior	
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	7.7:00 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	l<50 M.P.	7:00 p.m.	Eric Mayefsky	contact Eric for location . mayefsky@stanford.edu.
	Cardinal DBC at Stanford	l Open	7:00 p.m.	Eric Mayefsky	contact Eric for location . mayefsky@stanford.edu.
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	
	Sunday Afternoon BC	<99 M.P.	1:00 p.m.	Coleman/Watson	
	-		-		

SPECIAL EVENTS

- * Sectional, Saturday, October 4 at Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa
- * Club game, Sunday, October 5 at 1 p.m., Sunday Afternoon BC
- * Unit NAP Final, Sunday, October 5 at 1:15 p.m. and 6 p.m. Bridge Center
- * Club Appreciation Pairs, Wednesday, October 8 at 11 a.m., Bridge 'n Brunch
- * Unit lecture, Thursday, October 9 at 10 a.m., Bridge Center
- * Sectional, Thursday, October 9 at Plaza Hotel, Carson City, NV
- * Sectional, Saturday, October 11 at Harbor HS, Santa Cruz
- * Club Appreciation Pairs, Wednesday, October 15 at 7 p.m., Doubleton BC
- * Sectional, Saturday, October 18 at Toulumne Sr. Ctr., Sonora
- * Unit lecture, Thursday, October 23 at 10 a.m., Bridge Center
- * Unit Barometer game, Sunday, October 26 at 1 p.m. Bridge Center
- * Sectional, October 30 at Bridge Center, Fresno

Palo Alto Unit 503 Board

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Susana Krulevitch, Secretary

Alan Templeton, Treasurer

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