



# KIBITZER



**Newsletter of Palo Alto Unit 503 of the American Contract Bridge League Volume XLVIII, Issue 8, August 2010**

**Alert! Alert!** On Monday July 19 from 9 a.m.-10:30, a new company employed by Dymond Dev. Co, the building owners, will be conducting environmental testing at the Bridge Center. The testing will be done by 10:30, so the Monday game will be held, but perhaps starting a few minutes late. Also, in order to conduct these tests, it is necessary to close the Bridge Center over the weekend, and shut off all utilities, so there will be no Saturday or Sunday games on July 17-18.

**Bridge Center  
Closed  
Sat/Sun July 17,18.**

Jarlsberg??? Emmentaler?? No!! Teams? Yes, of course. The Unit will hold a 199er Swiss on Monday, August 9 at 6:30 p.m. Players may list full or partial teams on the Unit web site. The second Swiss is an Open and 199er event set for Sunday, August 29 at 1 p.m. Please use the sign-up at the Bridge Center or on the web site. The chairs need advance registration to make sure that enough refreshments are available.

**TWO (count 'em)  
Swiss Team Games  
in August**

On Sunday, August 29, in addition to the game, the Unit has rescheduled a special meeting to amend the Constitution. Unit members will vote to change two articles.

Unit events are first-rate: good competition, good fun, good friends and good eats.

Bridge has become an important activity in many of our lives. We look forward to coming to a well-maintained site where the games are run professionally. It takes a body of volunteers to make this possible. Board members serve two-year terms and the Board meets once a month at the Bridge Center. Duties run from serving as an officer to securing art exhibits for wall decoration. There are many among you who have a great deal to offer. Please consider giving some of your time and talent to keep the Unit an outstanding place to meet and play bridge.

**Now It's  
Your  
Turn!**

Elections for the Unit 503 Board of Directors will be held in November. If you are interested in filling a position on the Board, or if you know someone who might be, please contact Susana Krulevitch at (650) 948-8882 or [susana440@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susana440@sbcglobal.net).

## **Constitution Amendment Vote Postponed to August 29**

At the Unit Game on Sunday August 29, the Unit will hold a special meeting to make revisions to the Constitution. And Bylaws. The Unit requests that the Unit members present vote to *accept* the proposed changes. The purpose of these revisions is to simplify the Treasurer's job which currently necessitates maintenance of two bank accounts, one for the Unit and one for the Bridge Center and which requires writing checks to transfer funds in and out of each bank account. The proposed changes would eliminate one account but the Treasurer would keep separate books, one set for Unit income and expenses and the other for Bridge Center income and expenses. The change may also offer opportunities for higher interest income.

Please see Unit website and Bridge Center bulletin board for specific revisions.

## **New Monday Club to Open July 26**

The new Monday Morn JCC game at 11 a.m. will have a section limited to players with fewer than 50 MP's, another limited to players with fewer than 200 or 300 MP's and an open section. The location is the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center, in the Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto . The driving and parking directions are on the Unit 503 web site.

As at the Thursday game at the JCC, there will be free snacks, and players may order lunch from the café on the premises either when they arrive or in advance.

## **STAC Up the Silver at both Pairs and Swiss**

Gather up a hoard of silver points at STAC XIX the week of August 16-22 at both pairs and Swiss events. As with other STACs, the pair overalls will be computed across all participating clubs. Stratification for the open games is A=2000+, B=750-2000 and C=0-750. Awards are silver, sectional-rated points.

There will be Swiss team STACs at: Alpine BC, Tuesday, August 17, Bridge 'n Brunch Wednesday, August 18 and Friday Night Barometer, August 20. The other clubs will all hold pairs games. Because the Unity Church is not available on Tuesday, August 17 or Wednesday, August 18, there will be no STAC's at this location. Therefore, Will Watson will require advance reservations for his Tuesday game at the Bridge Center by phone or email, (650) 804-1731, willwats@comcast.net. Also, Sue Johnson invites the Wednesday Afternoon 49ers to come to the Swiss teams at 11 a.m. the Bridge Center. It would help her plan for the 49ers players to register in advance at (510) 505-0271, zacathan@comcast.net. She also offers to set up teams or partnerships for them.

## **Rothschild Gets a Fast Start**

Each year the Unit presents an award to the member who accumulates the most points in the Unit games, including the Sunday specials and the Monday night Swiss. The list shows that Don Rothschild has gotten off to a big lead with Polly Siegel also well ahead among the Non-Life Masters. The point totals are: Don Rothschild-11.34, Tahir Gokcen-8.99, Franklin Gonzalez-8.54, Henryk Szejnwald-8.54, Sherie Greenberg-8.26, Jean Flocks-6.6, Chris Lazarovici-6.6, Betsy Steele-6.51, Carol Brigham-6.5, Alex Lovejoy-5.87. Among the Non-Life Masters with fewer than 300 MP, Polly Siegel has 7.16 points followed by Robert Bergey with 4.69.

**NAP** - Last chance to qualify at a Unit club game is on Wednesday, August 11 at 7 p.m. at the Doubleton BC.

**Membership Growth** - The July ACBL report shows that the Unit membership is over 888, an 8% increase over the total of last year at this time.

**Firecracker Trivia** - For a sparkling Firecracker, have a chair named Steve for the last two years! There were 1088 players versus 1144 last year, down 5%, 333 were Unit members (the same number as in 2009) including 141 who were 199ers. Christian Lazarovici with 25.34 points was the Unit member earning the most points with Chris Chung the NLM with the most points. The players included some from as far away as Las Vegas, Arizona and Florida. Coming back from Missouri, to celebrate the fourth with us were Unit members Tom and Nancy Cadwell. But how often does the Firecracker have a player come from the Netherlands to play?

**Art** - While you are admiring and appreciating the California scenery at the current art exhibit at the Bridge Center, the Unit reminds the players that the art is for sale and the Unit receives 10% of the proceeds.

**Potpourri** - Long time Unit member, Betty Hirsekorn, has moved to Santa Rosa. For information contact Phyllis Gaffney, the Sunshine Chair.

**Library** - How about a good mystery? The Unit library has a number of mysteries with bridge as a theme. *The Bridge Team Murders* by Matthew Granovetter is the 3<sup>rd</sup> in a trilogy of bridge mysteries based on duplicate, rubber bridge and team play. *"Duplicate Death"* by Georgette Heyer is based in London. There is a duplicate bridge party given by a social climbing hostess on the lookout for a good match for her beautiful but dumb daughter. What will happen? *The Great Bridge Conspiracy* by Terry Quinn in which the card playing and espionage feats of Captain Diggery Piper are fully and faithfully recorded. More to come. Happy reading!

## Table Talk



## Firecracker Burned Brightly

A whopping success! The Unit has done it again! With 1040 tables, the total was 99% of last year's record. Congratulations to every one of the Unit members who helped make this possible, especially Tournament Chair, Steve Barasch, his committee chairs and their teams and to the many, many members who played and assisted at the event. The Unit also appreciated the dedicated work of the Tournament Director, Nancy Boyd, and all the other ACBL directors who kept the games running smoothly. Saturday was the biggest day with 246 tables and Monday the second highest with 216 ½. The table summary for all the sessions was: Thurs: first 105, second 80; Fri: 116 & 87; Sat: 125 & 121; Sun: 99.5 & 90; Mon: 113 & 103.5. The open pairs table count was 344, 199er pairs 138, KO 249 and Swiss 309.

The large participation made it possible for the Unit to earn an estimated net income of \$3,432 based on table fees of \$41,560.

### Firemen/ Firewomen

Steve Barasch, Firecracker chair, values all the support he received from so many of the Unit members. Alan Templeton implemented the posting of the Firecracker game results on the Unit web site and Marian Kelly worked on publicity. Along with Steve, the Unit appreciates the excellent job done by the chairs: Phyllis Gaffney, Decorations and Hospitality; Fran Bennett, Partnerships; Carolyn Lemm, Caddies; Allan Wolman, Setup/Takedown and their committees:

**Hospitality:** Marilyn Payne, Sue Griswold, Val Baldwin, Gabrielle Pani, Fran Bennett, Steve Lubeck, Sue Fikes, Dorothy Shannahan, Kathie Shaw, Merle Orelove, Fung Bao, Mary Radin, Valerie Hutton, Alice Arnold, Fran Rappaport, Mike Rappaport, Denise Pitsch, Clara Chang and Walt Gaffney

**Partnership:** Steve Lubeck, Dori and Joe Foster, Josephine Ventura, Jennifer Sheppard, Lynne Johnson, Lu Isaacs, John and Linda Mattis, Liz Trom, Alice Story, Valerie Baldwin, Carolyn Chaney, Alan Cummings and Sioux Atkinson.

**Caddies:** Elizabeth Arnold, Jessica Arnold, Brandon Cochran, Olivia Cole, Emily Cook. Shaheen Essabhoy, Tucker Gibbons and Maryssa Skarloff.

**Set-up/Take-down:** Sioux Atkinson, Steve Barasch, Paul Clermont, Alan Cummings, Bob Dean, Rick Giusti, Bob Lewis, Steve Lubeck, Margot Livensparger, John Mattis, Linda Mattis, Kevin O'Leary, Rande Palmer, George Paris, Marilyn Payne, Jolly Perkocha, Ron Perkocha, Bob Scheidtman, Fred Schwerer, Polly Siegel, James Stuart-Smith and Elinor Tanck

**Photographer:** Roy Robinson

Swiss star Susan Stiege shone brilliantly on Monday with two Swiss first overalls and Christian Lazarovici also had two Sunday pair wins. They were the only Unit members with two Firecracker firsts. The other Unit members with first overalls in their strata were:

Sue Fikes, Toshio Sato, Mildred Sato, Dorothy Shannahan, Polly Siegel, Chris Chung, Denise Pitsch, Lynn Giusti, Rick Giusti, Clara Chang, Franklin Gonzalez, Henryk Szejnwald, Rick Fluke, Claudia Tamblin, Barbara Klein, Reginald Rice, Alice Rice, Judith Gentry, Mary Linda Cook, Mark Dowley, Mary Dowley, James Harris, Michele Musy, Barbara Shukov, Kip Kado, Prudence Saunders, Ellie Bernhardt, Marc Cohen, Paul Chestnut, Christian Lazarovici, Gabriella Bowling, James Harris, Carol Kemper, Eileen Zefting, Elan Winkler, Isha Thapa, Mukund Thapa, John Hoffman, Robert Scheidtman, George Paris, Nancy Rude and Sioux Atkinson.

## A Perfect Firecracker Ten



Yes, it's true. Everybody at the Firecracker was happy! Well, everybody whom our terrific photographer Roy Robinson approached must have been winning.....



## Unit Game Schedule

Mon. Aug. 9 199er Night Time Swiss  
 Sun. Aug. 29 Swiss Teams  
 tbd 199er Night Time Swiss  
 Sun. Sept. 19 Open Pairs  
 Mon. Oct. 4 199er Night Time Swiss  
 Sun. Oct 10 Mentor/Mentee and Open Pairs  
 Mon. Nov. 1 199er Night Time Swiss  
 Sun. Nov. 21 Pot Luck Swiss and Election  
 Sun. Dec. 19 Holiday Party Open-99er  
 Pairs /Sportsmanship Award  
 Mon. Dec. 20 199er Night Time STAC Swiss

All games are at the Bridge Center.

## Player Advancements

The ACBL July report shows that the players  
 named below have moved up. Congratulations!

Junior Master	5 MP	Omer Bar-Or, Thomas Campbell, Ann Porteus, Jon Rayden, Sue Rotha
Sectional Master	50 MP	Joy Barrett, Joe Buchanan, Janet Cross, Delores Dunlap, Helen Helson, Jack Lucas, Malcolm McLaughlin, Michele Musy, Alice Redfield, Janet Tate
Regional Master	100 MP	Ralph Bestock, Merry Stephenson
Life Master	300 MP	Etta Herbach, Ron Kilgren
Bronze Life Master	500 MP	Stephen Lubeck
Gold Life Master	2500 MP	Adrienne Oliff

### NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, August 3, at 3:45 p.m.  
 Bridge Center

### Palo Alto Unit 503 Board

Michael Atherton, President  
 Eric Mayefsky, Vice-President  
 Sue Griswold, Treasurer  
 Terry Lancaster, Secretary  
 Steve Barasch, Phyllis Gaffney,  
 Lu Isaacs, John Mattis, Grant Spaeth,  
 Betsy Steele, Dave Wheeler.

## Bridge Classes

By

**Kathy Harper**

### Beginning Bridge, "Play & Learn"

Thursday Mornings 9:30-11:30 AM

9/9, 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18,

12/2, 12/16, 1/13, 1/27, 2/10, 2/24

**Cost: \$175**

### Basic Intermediate Bridge, "Polish Your Basics"

Tuesday Mornings 9:30-11:30AM

9/21, 10/5, 10/19, 11/2, 11/16,

11/30, 12/14, 1/11, 1/25, 2/8

**Cost: \$150**

**Contact Kathy at (650) 207-1816 or**

**kharper100@aol.com**

Kibitzer

ACE OF CLUBS

		MP
Larry Lasher	16	0-5
Lynda Connolly	7	
Ron Chestnut	7	
		20-50
Marc Cohen	18	
Barbara Shukov	16	
Roger Griffith	13	
		20-50
Rick Flucke	40	
Michele Musy	25	
Ellie Bernhardt	13	
		50-100
Polly Siegel	32	
Carol Kemper	19	
Merry Stephenson	17	
		100-200
Vinita Gupta	28	
James Harris	26	
David Crosley	23	
		200-300
Vera Howard	23	
Etta Herbach	21	
Valerie Baldwin	21	
		300-500
Metin Gokcen	47	
Ralph Haines	31	
Lee Haze	29	
		500-1K
David Kane	78	
Henryk Szejnwald	61	
Freya Charney	42	
		1-2.5K
Martie Moore	77	
Franklin Gonzalez	76	
David Wheeler	75	
		2.5-5K
Patricia Chambers	79	
Trina Bowman	73	
Kit Humphrey	58	
		5-7.5K
Hansa Narasimhan	63	
Margery Yates	50	
Donald Rothschild	43	
		7.5-10K
Sherie Greenberg	31	
Gary Macgregor	28	
		>10K

MINI-MCKENNEY

Larry Lasher	19
Lynda Connolly	13
Sandra Neuwelt-Truntze	9
Richard Recht	68
Marc Cohen	41
Barbara Shukov	35
Michele Musy	61
Mukund Thapa	59
Isha Thapa	59
Polly Siegel	139
Carol Kemper	72
Eileen Zefting	61
James Harris	70
Rick Giusti	59
Laura Tanner	59
Vera Howard	68
Etta Herbach	54
Penny Bellamy	53
Eusebio Menezes	100
Metin Gokcen	92
Josephine Ventura	80
Henryk Szejnwald	123
Belinda Gu	100
David Kane	95
Geeske Joel	363
Fung Bao	154
Franklin Gonzalez	149
BarbaraSonsini	204
James Merzon	195
Prudence Saunders	170
Hansa Narasimhan	303
Jim O'Neil	183
Donald Rothschild	101
Sherie Greenberg	194
Gary Macgregor	66
G Venkatesh	38

## 2010 Leaders in Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenney

The ACBL gives the Ace of Clubs award to the player who earns the most points in club games and the Mini-McKenney award for total points including sectionals and higher ranked tournaments. Congratulations to those who are in the lead at the midyear for 2010.

### Sympathy

The Unit board and members extend their sincere condolences to Annette Laird on the passing of her husband.

### Newcomer Games

- Monday morning >50, >200
- Tuesday evening (Begin./Intermed.)
- Wednesday afternoon (<50)
- Wednesday evening (<20) & (<200)
- Friday morning (<30)

### NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members:  
Lawrence Haugh, Sue Kaupp,  
Joanne Rayden, Cathy Smith and  
Noah Metz.

*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.	Coleman/Prior	
	JCC Bridge Club	Open/<50,200	11.00 a.m.	John Schwartz	Jewish Community Center, 3921 Fabian Way, P.A.
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	<200 M.P.	7:00 p.m.	Spaeth/Johnston	
	Lori & Sue's Dblton Club	<20 M.P.	7:00 p.m.	Spaeth/Johnston	
THUR	Thursday Morning JCC	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	John Schwartz	Jewish Community Center, 3921 Fabian Way, PA
	Thur. Afternoon BC	Open/Strat	12:00 p.m.	John & Linda Mattis	
FRI	The EZ Game	<30 M.P.	9:00 a.m.	Marolyn Imaoka Yancey	
	Friday Morning BC	Open/Strat.	10:30 a.m.	Claire Coleman	
	Friday Night Barometer	Open/Strat.	7:30 p.m.	Will Watson	
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

- NAP Qual. game, Wednesday July 21 at 7 p.m., Doubleton Club
- 299er Sectional, Saturday, July 24 at Monterey Bridge Center, Marina
- 199er Unit Swiss Teams Monday, August 2 at 6:30 p.m. Bridge Center
- Sectional, Friday, August 6 at Castro Valley, Transfiguration Church
- NLM Sectional, Saturday August 14, Fresno, Bridge Center
- NAP qualifying game, Wed. Aug. 11 at 7 p.m., Doubleton BC
- Sectional, Saturday, August 14 at So. San Francisco, Municipal Svc Bldg
- Pairs STAC, Mon. Aug. 16 at 11 a.m., Bridge Mix at Bridge Center
- Pairs STAC, Mon. Aug. 16 at 11 a.m., Monday Morn JCC BC
- Swiss Teams STAC, Tues. Aug 17 at noon, Alpine BC (Sign-up req.)
- Pairs STAC, Tues. Aug. 17 at 7 p.m., VIPA BC (Invitational)
- Swiss Teams STAC, Wed. Aug. 18 at 11 a.m., Bridge 'n Brunch
- Pairs STAC, Wed. Aug 18 at 7 p.m., Doubleton Club (Sign-up req.)
- Pairs STAC, Thurs. Aug. 19 at 11 a.m., Thursday Morning JCC BC
- Pairs STAC, Thurs. Aug. 19 at noon, Thursday Afternoon BC
- Pairs STAC, Fri. Aug. 20 at 10:30 a.m., Friday Morning BC
- Swiss Teams STAC, Fri. Aug. 20 at 7:30 p.m., Friday Night Barometer
- Pairs STAC, Sat. Aug. 21at noon, One Club
- Pairs STAC, Sun., Aug. 22 at 1 p.m., Sunday Afternoon BC
- Sectional, Wednesday, August 25 at Reno, Ramada Inn
- Swiss Teams, Open and 199er, Sunday, Aug. 29 at 1 p.m. Bridge Center

### Club Closings

- No game for Just For Fun, Tuesday Aug. 10, Tuesday Noon BC, Aug. 17,
- Wed. Aft 49ers, Aug. 18, Easy Bridge, Friday, Aug. 20.

### Club Contacts

Gabriella Bowling (650) 941-8398  
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