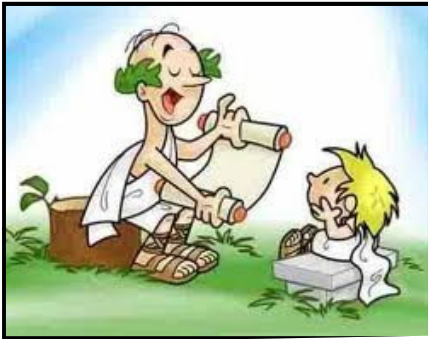




KIBITZER



Newsletter of Palo Alto Unit 503 of the American Contract Bridge League Vol. XLVIII, Issue 10, October, 2010



Mentor and Mentee partnerships will discover the fun of playing against their peers at the Unit game on Sunday, October 10 at 1 p.m. at the Bridge Center. Contact your mentor or mentee and plan on coming out to test your skills. If you need a partner for this event, please contact the coordinators, Kathie Shaw, bandkshaw@aol.com

**Unit Invites
Mentor/Mentee
Partnerships
Sunday, Oct. 10**

or (650)854-7443, or Merle Orelve, merleor@comcast.net or (650)326-1788. There will also be an open section for those not participating in the mentor/mentee match.

Both open partnerships and mentor/mentee partnerships should sign up on the web site or on the Bridge Center list. Stratification scoring will give every pair an opportunity to earn masterpoints.

The North American Pairs (NAP) Unit Qualification Final is set for Sunday, October 3 with sessions at 1:15 p.m. and 5:45 p.m. This is a two-session qualifier for Strata A, B and C for the District 21 Finals. No sign-ups needed, but prequalification at a club game is necessary for entry into this event. The date for the District finals is January, 2011. Information: Eric Mayefsky, mayefsky@stanford.edu.

**NAP Final Planned
for Sunday,
October 3**

The regular 1 p.m. Sunday Afternoon BC game at 1 p.m. will be held concurrently with the NAP final.

The editors are readying the candidates' bios and the Unit photographer, Roy Robinson, has submitted photos for Valerie Baldwin, Keith Burnett, David Crosley, Beverly Nuding and Allen Wolman, the nominees for two year terms on the 2011 Unit Board. Get set to cast your vote when the ballot boxes appear on November 1 at the three game locations. The November *Kibitzer* will feature the candidates' photos and bios along with the ballot and voting instructions. Election chair, Susana Krulevich, will announce the results at the Pot Luck game, Sunday, November 21.

**Get Ready,
Get Set
to Vote**

Invitation to Sign Up for Peninsula Challenge

The San Mateo/Palo Alto Unit Challenge continues on Saturday, September 25 at the Bridge Center with match time at 1 p.m. and lunch for all players at noon. There is still time to sign up to represent our Unit in one of three strata: five A teams (1500+), five B teams (300-1500) and five C teams (0-300). Strata are calculated based on average points of team members. Cost is \$12 per person. Teams will only play against teams from the other unit, and the unit with the highest combined score from the previous April event and this one will win. Look for details and sign-up opportunities at the Bridge Center. If you have questions or cannot sign up at the Bridge Center, contact Eric Mayefsky at mayefsky@stanford.edu or (914) 299-1311. Sue Johnston and Lori Spaeth are assisting Eric with this game.

**Please note that here will be *no*
One Club noon game that day**

Looking for Potential Award Recipients

Since the early days, the Unit has annually awarded the sportsmanship trophy for friendship, a pleasant attitude and the practice of active ethics. Additionally, since 2006, it has honored a member for service to the Unit. The committee of Eric Mayefsky, Sue Johnston and Lori Spaeth will select the 2010 recipients.

They welcome suggestions of Unit members worthy to receive either of these awards. If you wish to offer names, email Eric at mayefsky@stanford.edu. Specify which award and list a reason you think the suggested player is worthy of the award. There is a November 1 deadline for proposed recipients. The Unit will award the trophy and plaque at the Holiday Party game on Sunday, December 19.

The Swiss Keep Returning.... Past and Future

On Sunday, August 29, 14 teams battled for the cheese in a tune-up at the Bridge Center for the Regional. The team of Hansa Narasimhan, Edward Barlow, George Paris and Tony Glynn scored a tie in A1 with Sherie Greenberg, Jim O'Neil, Don Rothschild and Tahir Gokcen. The top result in B1C1 went to the team of Rick Flucke, Omar Barnir, Eric Byler and Eileen Zefting.

The September 13 Monday Night 199er Swiss contest resulted in a win for the team of Gina Norberg, Kathleen Weiman, Sharon Krawetz and Rochelle Gutmann over five other teams.

There will be a replay of the Monday Night 199er Swiss on October 4 with sign-ups available on the Unit website. The Unit players await a contest full of fun and good competition for those victory points.

Thanks go to Eric Mayefsky and Phyllis Gaffney, the Unit Tournament chairs, and the directors Sue Johnson and Claire Coleman.

Bridge Bits



Bridge Center Rehab - Tests conducted at the Bridge Center during the Regional indicate that nearly every opened wall showed visible mold growth. However, recent air testing confirms that the mold is contained within the walls and is not affecting the air quality in our facility. Soon, a meeting will address the time, manner and extent of the rehabilitative work necessary. This will require temporary closing of the Bridge Center. The Unit will notify members regarding the timing of the work and the replacement location (s) of the games. The BC is safe to occupy until repairs are made.

Constitution - At a meeting on August 29, Unit members approved changes to the Unit Constitution allowing the treasurer to maintain one bank account for the Unit and Bridge Center funds. The treasurer will continue to keep separate financial records for each entity.

Pot Luck Game - The Board has changed the Unit game set for Sunday, November 21 from a Swiss Teams to a Pairs game.

Forum - What sorts of items would you like to see in the Palo Alto paragraphs of District's monthly newspaper? Marian Kelly is looking for items which have not appeared in the *Kibitzer*. Send her your suggestions, please, to Kelly.marian@gmail.com.

Art - The new exhibit at the Bridge Center features the infrared photography of Tony Coluzzi to produce soft focus images. His goal is to capture the special quality of light in the landscape.

Library News - Your lending library has quite a number of new books by Barbara Seagram with Marc Smith and other authors. Many of us have one or more of the Seagram books and have found them very useful. Eddie Kantar says, "If this were Las Vegas, Barbara and Marc would have hit the jackpot – twice. You are holding a winner in your hands, just make sure you get one in your partner's hands as well". These books are: *25 Bridge Conventions You Should Know*, *25 more Bridge Conventions . . .*, *25 Ways to compete in the Bidding*, *...to Take more Tricks as Declarer*, *...to be a Better Defender and Planning the Play of the Bridge Hand*.

Bridge Center Use - Please Note— To insure that there are no conflicts, anyone who wishes to rent or to use the Bridge Center must check with the Bridge Center Manager, John Mattis, (408) 739-7812, jsmattis@yahoo.com.

Appreciation - All clubs may hold a Club Appreciation Pair Game and a Club Appreciation Swiss Teams Event during the month of October. For pair games, the awards will be sectional-rated black points; for teams the awards will be 5% gold for winners and the rest will be sectional-rated black. Both the Doubleton and Bridge 'n Brunch Clubs will hold a pairs game on Wednesday, October 20. We expect other clubs will schedule similar games.

It Seems to Me

By Gersh

The better players are so accustomed to look for advanced plays like squeezes or end plays that sometimes they miss a simple declarer play. Here is a problem hand with no advanced play required.

North

- S: 53
- H: KQ43
- D: KJ53
- C: Q108

South

- S: AK6
- H: J52
- D: Q62
- C: AKJ2

You, in the South seat, are declarer in 3 NT. The opponents have not bid. West's opening lead is the spade queen. How do you play the hand?

A simple analysis shows you have four club tricks and two in spades. You need three tricks in the red suits. Assume West has at least four spades. The red suits do not split three-three. The

red aces are split, each opponent holding one.

I showed this problem to about 20 players; all ducked the first spade and took the second. Now almost all of them led a red two. This has a 50% chance of winning. It wins if West has the ace of that suit. But if East wins the third trick, he will lead another spade after which West still has an ace to continue spades and set the contract. Thus it is important to lose the lead to West's ace before East's. In this way East will be out of spades when she wins her ace.

The correct play wins 100% of the time. For the third trick lead a club to dummy then lead the diamond three toward the South hand. If East has the ace and takes it, you have three tricks in diamonds; if East doesn't take the ace, your queen wins. Then you shift to hearts to win two more tricks, making three in the red suits. Finally, if West has the ace of diamonds, you have succeeded in losing to West's ace before East's. Obviously you could have led the other red suit from dummy. Too simple!

Newcomer Games

Monday morning (>50 & >200)

Tuesday evening (Begin./Intermed.)

Wednesday afternoon (<50)

Wednesday evening (<200)

Friday morning (<30)

Player Advancements

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

NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members:

Buz Battle, Patricia Berkley, Donald Cohn, Kimberley Fielding, Larry Hambly, David Isaksen, Tim Kado, Jayne Lipe, Shirley Negrin, Ava Norman, Hide Tanigami, Constance Chao, Helen MacDonell, Beverly Nuding, Wen Yang Qi and Marlene Smeed.

Club Master	20 MP	Charles J Jameson
Sectional Master	50 MP	Jeanine Ardourel, Frances Green Dolly Musey, Carol Schwerer
Regional Master	100 MP	Rick Flucke
Silver Life Master	1000 MP	Marianne Moutoux



Where do the important Silicon Valley technology firms go for legal assistance and advice? To the prestigious law firm of Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich and Rosati, of course. And where do we go? To the very same place! (Without the usual costs involved.)

Thanks to the generosity of Barbara Sonsini and her husband, Larry, the firm's chairman, our Unit has been well guided in the restoration work necessitated by the flood of 2009. Larry's firm has represented the Unit—through attorney, Susan Reinstra—and has guided us in rehabilitation work to ensure the continued health and safety of our members. The Unit wishes to give the Sonsinis special recognition and appreciation for their generous support.

And that isn't all they've done. When we were homeless and considering a new space, Larry's firm assisted in the negotiations for the Bridge Center leasehold arrangements with Twisters. But the place needed work. Claire and Duane Coleman took on this job—and expense—expenses the club couldn't meet. But Barbara took it upon herself to organize a very successful raffle to repay them.

Not content to rest on her laurels of generosity and service, Barbara served on the Board for four years, was Unit vice-president in 2004 and president in 2005. She served on the Education Committee and ran the hugely successful and popular mentor program for seven years. She was chairman of the Conduct and Ethics committee. She wrote our *Forum* column for two years, and contributed articles and proofreading assistance to the *Kibitzer*. She also served as art co-ordinator. As if that weren't enough, when the Nationals were held in San Francisco a few years ago, she was the Fundraising Chairman!

All this bighearted contribution arises from her passion for bridge, which she began playing about 15 years ago. She has had great success in tournament play including several second, third and fourth place finishes in National events.

It's a great game, bridge is, and great people like Barbara play it. We thank you, Barbara.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 5, at 3:45 p.m.
Bridge Center

**Let's Hear it for
Barbara and Larry
Sonsini!!**

**Read Here About All
They Have Done for Our
Unit!**

By Mary Van Tamelen

Sympathy

The Unit Board and members extend their sincere condolences to the family and friends of Caroline Macey who recently passed away. Also the Unit extends its sympathy to the friends of Irene Pingree who passed away in Florida. She owned several games during the earlier days of the Unit.

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.

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	
	Monday Morning JCC	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	
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

- Unit Stratified Pairs Sunday, Sept. 19 at 1 p.m., Bridge Center
- Club Champ, Wednesday, Sept. 22 at 11 a.m., Bridge 'n Brunch BC
- Club Champ, Thursday, Sept. 23 at 11 a.m., Thursday JCC BC
- Peninsula Challenge, Saturday, Sept. 25, noon lunch, 1 p.m. game, Bridge Cntr.
- Club Champ, Monday, Sept. 27 at 11 a.m. Monday JCC BC
- Lecture, Tuesday Sept 28 at 10 a.m. Frank Smoot, Inverted Minors, Bridge Cntr.
- Club Champ, Wed., Sept. 29 at 7 p.m., Doubleton BC (sign-up please)
- Sectional, Saturday, October 2 at Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa
- Two-session NAP Final, Sunday, October 3 at 1:15 p.m., 5:45 p.m. Bridge Center
- 199er Unit Swiss Teams, Monday, October 4 at 6:30 p.m., Bridge Center
- Sectional, Thursday, October 7 at Plaza Hotel, Carson City, NV
- Sectional, Saturday, October 9 at Harbor HS, Santa Cruz
- Unit Mentor/Mentee and Open Pairs, Sun. Oct. 10 at 1 p.m., Bridge Center
- Unit Lecture, Tuesday, October 12, Ed Barlow, Principles of Hand Play, 10 a.m., Bridge Center
- Club Appreciation Pairs, Wednesday, October 20 at 7 p.m., Doubleton BC
- Club Appreciation Pairs, Wednesday, October 20 at 11 a.m., Bridge 'n Brunch
- Sectional, Friday, October 22 at Masonic Temple, San Jose
- Lecture, Counting Your Tricks, by Jim Leuker, Tuesday, October 26 at 10 a.m., Bridge Center
- Sectional, October 28 at Bridge Center, Fresno

Club Closings

- No One Club game on Saturday, September 25

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