



TAKING OFF FOR THE FIRECRACKER

The Firecracker sectional is coming very soon. By now you are all aware that the dates have changed. Since the Convention Center is not available over the July 4th weekend, this year's tournament dates are Wednesday July 13 to Sunday July 17. Conveniently located the same as last year, the Firecracker will be at the Santa Clara Convention Center and in the same rooms. All Unit members are encouraged to attend, especially all the new members. For the past few years the Firecracker has been running with 1000 tables over the course of the five days, making it one of the largest sectionals in the United States. Let's continue this record for this year.

In order to give our beginning bridge players the opportunity to feel comfortable at a sectional tournament, there will be 49er pairs games at every session. Open pairs games and 199er games will occur every session, as well as Compact KO's every day but Sunday, when a two session Swiss

game is scheduled.

The Wednesday and Thursday games will be at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to accommodate people who are working. The games on Friday, Saturday and Sunday will be at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. with a no-host buffet available for lunch. A complete schedule is printed in this issue of the *Kibitzer*, in an ad in the *Contract Bridge Forum*, on the Unit web site and on posters at all the Unit games.

The Firecracker still needs Caddies on Wednesday, July 13, afternoon and evening and on Thursday, July 14, evening. Caddies, who will be trained by the directors, must be 11 or older and will be paid \$35 per session. If you know any potential teenage caddies, contact Carolyn Lemm at cblemm@wans.net.

And Allen Wolman is still looking for help with the set up or take down. Please contact him at allenwolman@sbcglobal.net.

JULY UNIT GAMES — SCHEDULE CHANGES

There will be *no* third Sunday Unit Game in July because of the Firecracker schedule. The next Sunday Unit Game will be held on the third Sunday of August. Read about it here next month.

The 199er Monday Swiss Unit game will be held, but not on the usual first Monday. It has been moved to the second Monday in July, July 11 at 6:30 p.m. due to the holiday on the 4th.

Find the *Kibitzer* on the Unit's website, www.paloaltobridge.com

RECENT UNIT GAME RESULTS

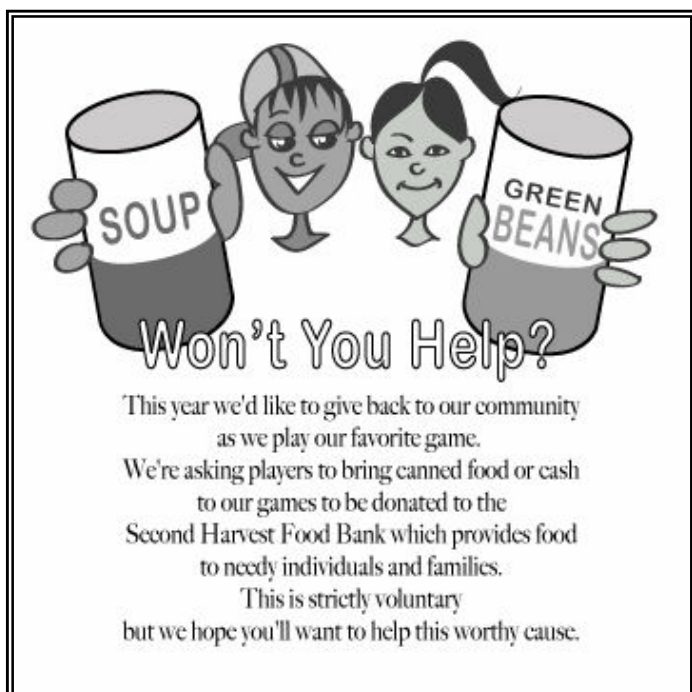
The May 15 Unit game drew 16 teams for Swiss competition. Will Watson did his usual terrific directing job while Hansa Narasimhan, Edward Barlow, Patricia Chambers and Robin Chambers played very well, winning in A. The B/C section featured excellent play as well with Polly Siegel, Randy Ryals, Daniel Harting and Chris Chung coming out on top.

The 199er Swiss event held June 6 resulted in most kudos to the A team of Gina Norberg, Rochelle Gutmann, Kathleen Weiman and Sharon Krawetz. The B team of Barbara Hansen, Wendy Benveniste, Robert Lee and Helen LaRash also took home honors.



SUPPORT SECOND HARVEST

Please don't forget to bring canned food donations (or cash) when you come to the Firecracker. You'll find a drop-off barrel in the lobby of the Convention Center. Your Unit and the Second Harvest Food Bank thank you!



Just a bridge joke or two.....

Do you know what the difference is between a mad psycho serial-killer and a bridge partner? You can reason with the serial killer.

Bridge is a great comfort in your old age. It also helps you get there faster.

NAME BADGE, ANYONE?

If you don't yet have one of our Unit's name badges, talk to Phyllis Gaffney, who handles badge orders. Find Phyllis at (408) 730-0654 or zoma-opa-gaffney@comcast.net. Cost is \$13.00

PHYLLIS, SUNSHINE SPREADER

Phyllis Gaffney sends cards from all of us to anyone suffering from an illness or who just needs some cheer, usually after she phones first. When there is a death, she sends a card to the family. If you know of any Unit member who could use a little sunshine, please let Phyllis know (408) 730-0654 or zoma-opa-gaffney@comcast.net

MENTOR/MENTEE PROGRAM

As most of you know, our Unit has an on-going Mentor/Mentee program, different from the highly successful Mentee Lesson classes which Valerie Baldwin has been offering and which will soon recess for the summer.

What you may not know is how the Mentor/Mentee program works and who is eligible for it. The Unit wants the Mentor/Mentee pairings to be relatively long term, i.e., more than a year, and to be fun and advantageous for both the mentor and the mentee. Our guidelines suggest that mentees have at least 50 masterpoints plus the equivalent of one year of lessons. The mentor will be either a Life Master or its equivalent. Directors can help us modify these guidelines in individual situations.

The mentor's job is not to teach the rules of bridge, but rather to help in the practice of the rules learned. Each mentor is asked to play at least once a month with his/her mentee and to be willing to spend time after the game reviewing the hands played. Pairs are encouraged to play more frequently, but once a month is the minimum.

We currently have a waiting list of newer players who are looking for mentors, but we need mentors to pair them with. If you are interested in being a mentor or a mentee, please contact either Kathie Shaw (bandkshaw@aol.com) or Merle Orelove (Merleor@comcast.net) to place your name on our list. We will do our best to find a good pairing for you. Since we do not know each of you personally, we ask that you let us know any time the pairing we make is not working. We want this program to be a very positive experience for everyone involved.

There will be a Unit Mentor/Mentee game later in the year. Watch the Kibitzer for announcement of date and time.

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Tuesday, July 5
3:45PM

UPDATE ABOUT OUR MOVE...

By Mike Atherton and Alan Templeton

At the moment our new Stierlin Road home is not much more than a shell, so we are currently working with the landlord, IFES, on build-out, i.e., putting the facility into move-in condition. Duane Coleman is coordinating the project. IFES has just signed a contract with the contractor and they hope to start work next week and to finish for move in on Sept. 6 after the Santa Clara Regional.

In the meantime, we must secure the approval of the City of Mt View for a Conditional Use Permit. The hearing before the Zoning Administrator is scheduled for June 22nd. Before then, however, our representatives will meet with many of the neighbors concerned by the impact of the Bridge Club and additional cars which we will generate. Hopefully, reasonable minds will prevail, and the Bridge Club will be able to stay on its scheduled move in early September. More news in our next edition.

NEWCOMER GAMES

Monday morning (<50 & <200)
Tuesday evening (Begin./Intermed.)
Wednesday afternoon (<50)
Wednesday evening (<200)
Thursday afternoon (<50)
Friday morning (<30)

PALO ALTO UNIT 503 BOARD

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Lu Isaacs, John Mattis, Allen Wolman

* FIRECRACKER SECTIONAL - 2011 *



Palo Alto Unit 503

DATE CHANGE July 13 – July 17, 2011

Santa Clara Convention Center
5001 Great America Parkway

Wednesday, July 13

Compact Knockouts, Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4
Stratified Open Pairs, single session
199er Pairs, single session
49er Pairs, single session
Stratified Swiss Teams

1:00 PM	7:00 PM
1:00 PM	7:00 PM
1:00 PM	7:00 PM
1:00 PM	7:00 PM

Thursday, July 14

Compact Knockouts, Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4
Stratified Open Pairs, single session
199er Pairs, single session
49er Pairs, single session
Stratified Swiss Teams

1:00 PM	7:00 PM
1:00 PM	7:00 PM
1:00 PM	7:00 PM
1:00 PM	7:00 PM

Friday, July 15

Compact Knockouts, Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4
Stratified Open Pairs, single session
199er Pairs, single session
49er Pairs, single session
Stratified Swiss Teams

10:00 AM	3:00 PM
10:00 AM	3:00 PM
10:00 AM	3:00 PM
10:00 AM	3:00 PM

Saturday, July 16

Compact Knockouts, Rounds 1, 2, 3, 4
Stratified Open Pairs, single session
199er Pairs, single session
49er Pairs, single session
Stratified Swiss Teams

10:00 AM	3:00 PM
10:00 AM	3:00 PM
10:00 AM	3:00 PM
10:00 AM	3:00 PM

Sunday, July 17

Strati-Flighted Open Swiss, two sessions
Stratified Open Pairs, single session
199er Swiss Teams, two sessions
49er Pairs, single session

10:00 AM	& TBA
10:00 AM	3:00 PM
10:00 AM	& TBA
10:00 AM	3:00 PM

\$99 Special Rate
at the adjacent
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Santa Clara

Reserve by:
June 10, 2011

Call (800) 233-1234
Specify
Palo Alto Bridge

Tournament Chair
Steve Barasch
(408) 732-6663
Eml: baraschl@
ix.netcom.com

Partnerships
Fran Bennett
(650) 838-9451
Eml: franbennett@
sbcglobal.net

STRATIFIED EVENTS

A	2000+
B	500-2000
C	0-500

STRATIFIED-FLIGHTED EVENTS

A	3000+	B	1000-1500
X	0-3000	C	500-1000
		D	0-500

I/N EVENTS (as needed)

D	100-200	G	5-20
E	50-100	H	0-5
F	0-50		

FEES: \$10 per session for paid ACBL members; \$11 for others

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

DAY	BRIDGE CLUB	TYPE	TIME	DIRECTOR(S)	PLACE/ OTHER I NFO
MON	Bridge Mix	Open/<2K	11:00 a.m.	Coleman/Prior	
	Monday Morning JCC	Open/Strat.	11.00 a.m.	John Schwartz	Jewish Community Center, 3921 Fabian Way, P.A.
	Monday Morning JCC	<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
	Grand Slam 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, (408) 685-5323
	Grand Slam Club	Open/Strat.	7:00 p.m.	Marolyn Imaoka Yancey	
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
	Thurs. Afternoon BC	Open/Strat	12:00 p.m.	Will Watson	
	Thurs. Afternoon BC	<50 M.P.	12.00 p.m.	Will Watson	
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

- Sectional, Friday, June 17 at Holy Redeemer Center, Oakland
- Club Champ., Tuesday, June 21 at 7 p.m., Grand Slam BC
- Lecture and Mentee game, Saturday, June 25 at 9 a.m., Bridge Center
- Sectional, Saturday, June 25 at Senior Center, Gilroy
- 299er Sectional, Saturday, June 25 at Bridge Center, Carson City, NV
- NAP Qualifying Game, Wednesday, June 29 at 7 p.m., Doubleton BC **sign-up required**
- Sectional, Saturday, July 9 at Vintage House Sr. Ctr., Sonoma
- Lecture and Mentee game, Sat. July 9 at 9 a.m., Bridge Center
- 199er Unit Swiss Teams, Monday, July 11 at 6:30 p.m., Bridge Center

PALO ALTO Firecracker Sectional: Wednesday July 13-Sunday, July 17, Convention Center, Santa Clara

- **All clubs closed from Wednesday, July 13 -Sunday, July 17**
- NAP Qual. game, Wednesday July 20 at 7 p.m., Doubleton Club
- 399er Sectional, Saturday, July 23 at Monterey Bridge Center, Marina
- NAP Qual. game Wednesday, July 27 at 11 a.m. Bridge 'n Brunch

Club Contacts

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 Claire Coleman (650) 368-5917
 Sue Johnston (510) 505-0275
 Walter Miller (510) 839-5929
 John Prior (408) 745-0380
 John Schwartz (650) 324-2424
 Lori Spaeth (650) 906-3987
 Will Watson (650) 804-1731
 Marolyn Yancey (408) 532-6437

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