



UNIT SETS SPECIAL MENTOR /MENTEE GAME

Unit mentor/mentee partnerships will be able to test their bidding, defense and play of the hand in competition with other similar pairs at the Unit Game on Sunday, September 25 at 1 p.m. at the Bridge Center. To participate in this event both mentors and mentees must be part of the Unit Mentor/Mentee program. There will be a separate open flight for those who are not eligible for the Mentor/Mentee match.

Contact your mentor or mentee and plan on coming out to sharpen up your skills. Contact the coordinators Kathie Shaw, bandkshaw@aol.com or (650) 854-7443 or Merle Orelove (650) 326-1788 or merleor@comcast.net for further information. Both

Mentor/Mentee partnerships and open 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.

Because of the conflict with the Regional, there will be *no* September 199er Monday Nite Swiss.

On August 1 with seven teams contesting, Kate Horricks-Andrew Dentai-Hedvig Fejerne-Devesh Goyal emerged as victors. Sue Johnston will be saying "good-bye" as director for these team games. The Unit and 199er players express their appreciation for her fine job and welcoming attitude.

PALO ALTO UNIT TO WELCOME THE PRESIDENT



Not Obama, but **Craig Robinson**, the ACBL President, who is on a journey to visit 100 bridge clubs across the nation in 100 days. And our Unit is one in a hundred! He will be at the Bridge Center on Monday, September 12. In its 74 year lifetime, no

ACBL President has taken on the challenge of per-

sonally visiting such a large number of clubs. "The clubs are the lifeline of the American Contract Bridge League, and where the majority of new members comes from," Robinson said. "This special trip serves as a 'thank you' to all the clubs for helping make the ACBL the success we are today."

Come and meet the President who will be playing bridge at Bridge Mix with a local player as his partner. Let's show him how popular bridge is in our area by coming out to play in the club championship at 11 a.m. on Monday, September 12.

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

FIRECRACKER'S A HIT AGAIN

What a Wow! Another fantastic Firecracker on July 13-17! With 1038.5 tables, the total was 99.9% of last year's attendance, and we accomplished such a successful tournament in spite of the need to move it to a new date. 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 big day with 243.5 tables, with Friday the second highest with 231. The table summary for all the sessions was: Wed: first 96, second 72; Thursday, 108, 77 Fri: 118,113; Sat: 127,126.5; Sun: 106, 105. The open pairs table count was 344, 199er pairs 116, 49er pairs 64, KO 242 and Swiss 306.

The large participation made it possible for the Unit to earn an estimated net profit of \$3375, just \$58 less than last year, based on table fees of \$41,245.

FIREMEN AND FIREWOMEN

Thanks to all the firefighters who helped at the Firecracker. Special appreciation goes to the chairs: First of all, Steve Barasch, the tournament chair and Fran Bennett, partnerships; Sioux Atkinson, hospitality; Carolyn Lemm, caddies; Allen Wolman, Set-up and Take-down and all their helpers below.

Partnership - Lu Isaacs, Leslie Kelly, Kathleen Kelly, John and Linda Mattis, Marian Kelly, Margot Livenspargar, Dori and Joe Foster, Valerie Baldwin, Carolyn Chaney, Susana Krulevitch and Beth Cowell

Hospitality - Valerie Baldwin, Sue Griswold (both helped also with decorations), John Hornback, Richard Markell, Linda Mattis, Nancy Rude, Carolyn Chaney, and Alice Arnold.

Caddies - Elizabeth and Jessica Arnold, Blake and Payton Selden, Cornelius and Claire Duffie, Ryan Puccio, Brian Sato, Winston Shustock, Emily Cook.

Set-up/Take-down - John Mattis, Fred and Carol Schwerer, James Stuart-Smith, Alan Cummings, John Hornback, Kevin O'Leary, Dori and Joe Foster, Bruce Scott, Hal Harbatkin, Elinor Tanck, Lee Haze, Randee Palmer, Brian Samuels, Jan Samuels, Polly Siegel, Randy Ryals, Robin Chambers, Vera Howard, Denise Pitsch, Tad and Florence Yoshikawa.

FIRECRACKER FABULOUS FIRSTS

Don Rothschild earned 23 masterpoints and is the Unit member who earned the most at the Firecracker. Congratulations to those who finished first overall in their respective strata: Rick Giusti (2), Richard Recht (2), Merry Stephenson (2), Nick Ward (2), Carol Kemper (2), Eileen Zefting (2), Eusebio Menezes (2), Marolyn Imaoka-Yancey (2), Mike Atherton, James Stuart-Smith, Susanna Krulevitch, Grant Spaeth, Hedvig-Fejerne, Larry Lasher, Omer Barnir, Anjan Ghose, Chuck Wong, Nancy Sabbag, Marcelo Gumucio, Don Rothschild, Kathy Harper, Donald Cohn, Ellie Bernhardt, Ronald Karr, Valerie Baldwin, Carolyn Chaney, Jeanine Ardourel, Min Wells, Ava Norman, Ruth Fos-

ter, Joe Foster, Paul Davis, Janice Flowers-Sonne, Henryk Szejnwald (2), Fred Schwerer, Carol Schwerer, Andrew Dentai, Peter Barba, Ioana Galis, Victor Galis, Dawn Black, Hal Harbatkin, Gloria Leitstein, Steve Barasch, Allen Wolman, Eiko Lissner, Yumiko Kano, Gary Macgregor, Gaurav Agrawal, Peggy Wheeler, Valerie Hatton, Mary Radin, Marjorie Gray, Arlene Levy, Trina Bowman, Gabrielle Uz, Aruna Desu, Paul Chestnut, Patricia Jarman, Katherine Pickert, Metin Gokcen, Malcolm McLaughlin, Buz Battle, Tim Kado, Sigmund Malek, Franklin Gonzalez, Theresa Iantosca, Jason Rosenfeld. We apologize if we missed anyone.

BRIDGE BITS AND PIECES

Achievement - The August *Bridge Bulletin* lists Joan Ivey as a new Platinum Life Master with 10,000 masterpoints. Joan is a former Palo Alto Unit member and served on the Board in 1979 and as VP in 1980.

NAP - The NAP Unit final on Sunday, October 30 starting at 1:15 p.m. is a two-session qualifier for Strata A, B, C for the District 21 Finals. Players must have pre-qualified to participate. There will also be a regular Sunday game at 1 p.m.

Big GAMES - Lori Spaeth and Marolyn Imoka-Yancey had an incredible 77.56% game on July 17. On August 1 Vinita Gupta and Will Watson had a

71.12% game!

Library - Our Unit library has books by a new author, Krzysztof Martens. He has trained many national teams in preparation for championship events. In *Dynamic Declarer Play*, part 1 and part 2, he teaches us to recognize all the problems that you will find at the bridge table. 'Calf' concentrates on identifying mistakes in defense. Why not take a look at these books the next time you play at the Bridge Center.

Tuesday Lectures - Begin again on Sept. 20. See p. 5 for more information.

SLOWLY BUT SURELY A NEW BRIDGE CENTER

At the present time (early August), the City of Mt. View is holding up completion of the Conditional Use Permit review until the owners of the property, IFES, retain a sound engineering firm and complete soundproofing of the buildings. We are attempting to expedite progress, but the owners have been very

slow to move. As a precaution, we explored the possibility of extending the time at our present site, and Twister has agreed, at least for the month of September. Meanwhile, we press vigorously all our efforts on all fronts.

PLAYER ADVANCEMENTS

The August report from the ACBL shows that the following players have moved up. Congratulations to all!

Junior Master	5 MP	Paul Davis, Charlene Porras, JoAnne Robertson, Bret Schaefer
Club Master	20 MP	Jennifer Ewald
Regional Master	100 MP	Sherry Barba, Roger Griffith, Lloyd Lettis, Manda Thatte
NABC Master	200 MP	Denise Pitsch, Barbara Shukov
Life Master	300 MP	Dori Foster, Joe Foster, Lu Isaacs
Bronze Life Master	500 MP	Joan Bower, Brenda Metz
Silver Life Master	1000 MP	Jan Samuels
Diamond Life Master	5000 MP	Robin Chambers

FIRECRACKER FINANCIALS

Below is a summary of the finances for the 2011 and 2010 Firecracker Sectional

Income	2011	2010
Number of Tables	1038.5	1040
Player Fees	\$41,245	\$41,546
Expenses		
ACBL fees	18,906	18,816
D-21 Supplies	1,293	1,300
Rent	13,320	13,320
Caddies	1,400	1,240
Hand records	343	315
Bridge pads rental	245	240
Advertising, water, candy, PA sys, misc.	2,363	2,882
Total Expenses	\$37,870	\$38,113
Net Income	\$3,375	\$3,433

SECOND HARVEST FOOD DRIVE A BIG SUCCESS AT THE FIRECRACKER

The Firecracker raised \$5,234 and 4 barrels of food to support the Second Harvest Food Bank. Many thanks go to Pete Klebowski - Unit 497, Alan Cummings - Unit 503 and a team of volunteers, including Susie Boeing, Kathy Harper and Diane Shannon shown below. See the September *Forum* for more information.



Mark & Mary Dowley, John Williams

2011 SECOND HALF UNIT GAME SCHEDULE

Sept 25 - Mentor/Mentee Pairs and Open Unit Game

Oct. 3 - 199er Night Swiss Teams

Oct 16 - Swiss Teams

Nov. 7-199er Night Time Swiss Teams

Nov 13 – Open Pairs, Election Pot Luck

Dec. 5 -199er Night Time Swiss STAC

Dec 18 – Holiday Pairs

Game Locations to be determined

Photos thanks to Roy Robinson!



Dee Peterson and Dolores Dunlap at 199er pairs.



Team Games—Ready, Set, Go!



Twin caddies, Jessica and Elizabeth

MAKE YOUR BID NOW FOR THE UNIT BOARD

These are exciting times for the Unit with the opening of a new Bridge Center. Here's your opportunity to help make a lot of important decisions and be sure you get your input heard. Yes, you can be one of the insiders by answering the Unit's call for nominees for the 2011-12 Board of Directors. So don't procrastinate; do it now. Those elected on Sunday, November 13 will serve two-year terms. Meetings are once a month on the first Tuesday. Here's your chance to help the Unit by assisting on a variety of committees in addition to helping with the new Bridge Center. Please respond to the Election Chair Susana Krulevich at susana440@sbcglobal.net or (650) 948-8882.

TUESDAY MORNING LECTURE SERIES RESUMES SEPTEMBER 20

Our new Lecture Series Co-ordinator, Fred Schwerer, has announced the first of many delightful Tuesday morning at 9:30 a.m. lectures.

Hamish Bennett will present the first lecture on "Bennett", the convention that he has played with success for 22 years. It will be included in the next edition of the Encyclopedia of Bridge to be published in 2012. This should be interesting, informative and fun as Hamish talks about his experiences and the history of the convention named after him.

Sympathy

The Unit officers and members extend their sincere condolences to Gloria Leitstein whose husband, Hal, passed away a week ago. Hal Leitstein's computer art was the second art work to grace the walls of our Bridge Center. Condolences also go to Barbara Oshman whose husband Ken, a founder of Rolm Corporation in the 80's, passed away earlier this month.

NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members: Hansup Kwon, Heemook Kwon, Carol MacCorkle, Lorraine Menuz, Nathaniel Munger, Jeff Schwartz, Richard Thomson and Fran Gaura.

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Tuesday, September 6
3:45PM
Everyone welcome

Palo Alto Unit 503 Board

Sue Griswold, President
Mike Atherton, Vice-President
Beverly Nuding, Treasurer
Sue Barkley, Secretary
Steve Barasch, Valerie Baldwin,
Keith Burnett, David Crosley, Lu Isaacs,
John Mattis, Allen Wolman

NEWCOMER GAMES

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

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	
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

- Charity Game, Thursday. Aug. 18 at 11 a.m. at Thurs. Morn JCC
- Sectional, Saturday, August 20 at So San Francisco, Municipal Svc Bldg
- **Pairs STAC, Mon. Aug. 22 –Sun. Aug 28 all games, all locations**
- Pairs STAC, Wednesday, Aug. 24 at 7 p.m. at Doubleton BC. (sign-up required)
- Regional, Tuesday, August 30 at Santa Clara, Hyatt Regency
- Sectional, Friday, Sept. 9 at Comm. Ctr, Orangevale
- Lecture and Mentee game, Saturday, Sept. 10 at 9 a.m., Bridge Center
- Club Champ, Monday, Sept. 12 at 11 a.m., Bridge Mix
- Club Champ, Thursday, Sept. 15 at noon, Thurs. Afternoon BC
- Sectional, Saturday, Sept. 17 at Club Venetian Gardens, Stockton
- Unit Lecture, Tuesday, Sept. 20 at 9:30 .a.m., Hamish Bennett., B.C.
- Club Champ, Wednesday, Sept. 21 at 11 a.m., Bridge 'n Brunch BC
- ACBL-wide Instant Match Pt. Game, Wednesday, Sept. 21, Doubleton BC
- Lecture and Mentee game, Saturday, Sept. 24 at 9 a.m., Bridge Center
- Unit Mentor/Mentee and Open Games, Sunday, Sept. 25, Bridge Center

Club Closings

- Easy Bridge, Friday, Aug. 26
- **No games from Tuesday evening, Aug. 30 through Monday, Sept. 5**
except Wed. Aft 49er at Unity Church at 1 p.m. will be OPEN

Club Contacts

Gabriella Bowling (650) 941-8398
 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

Unit Contact: Claire Coleman
 (650) 368-5917 or e-mail
unit503@palloaltobridge.com

Unit 503 Web Address:
www.palalotobridge.com

Bridge Center Phone: (650) 940-1824
 District 21 Hotline: (888) 292-4612
 Dist. 21 Website: www.d21acbl.com

Kibitzer Editorial Staff

Elinor Tanck (408) 738-2511
 e-mail: tancke@sbcglobal.net
 Marian Kelly (650) 854-1896
 e-mail: kelly.marian@gmail.com
 Chris Veres Bunz, graphic artist