



## TURKEY TIME ARRIVES EARLY AT THE BRIDGE CENTER

A Unit player favorite is coming with the Pot Luck buffet and Unit Game on Sunday, November 11 **at noon**. Get there early to make sure you get the chance to sample all the goodies. Thanks to Bev Nuding's generosity, the Unit will provide turkey with all the trimmings, ready and waiting. It's up to the rest of the players to contribute hors d'oeuvres, salads, side dishes and dessert to complement the holiday feast. To help with the planning for the food, please sign up on the Unit website or on the list at the Center. After players will have had their fill, it's time for the announcement of the election results, then bridge at 1 p.m. for the Unit Stratified Open and 199er Pairs. Bring your appetite for food and bridge with you for this Unit celebration.

During this joyous Thanksgiving season our Unit wishes to share with those not so fortunate in our community by giving support to our seniors. Second Harvest Food Bank tells us "half of our seniors are at risk of hunger." Food barrels will be at the Bridge Center beginning November 1 until Thanksgiving. Let's fill the barrels or consider a cash donation. Envelopes will be at the directors' station or you can contact Alan Cummings for details. Remember to include a contribution whenever you come to play, but especially during our Thanksgiving Pot Luck celebration.

## DON'T PASS, VOTE IN THE UNIT ELECTION

The nominating committee lists the following candidates for five two-year terms for the Board of Directors: Valerie Baldwin, Claire Coleman, Lee Haze, Bob Horowitz, Ron Kilgren, Ida Lee, Todd Makler, Brian Samuels, James Stuart Smith, Hansa Narashiman and Jody Williams. As required by the bylaws, the Board recommends the following candidates: Valerie Baldwin (incumbent), Bob Horowitz, Todd Makler, Brian Samuels and James Stuart-Smith. Voters are to select **five candidates**, including write-ins. The winners will form the 2013 Board along with the current members: Steve Barasch, Sue Barkley, Sue Griswold, Kevin

O'Leary, Margot Livenspargar and Henryk Szejnwald. The *Kibitzer* has printed photos, candidates' information and statements on pages 4-7 with a ballot and voting instructions. Beginning October 22, ballots, envelopes and boxes will be at every game site to make voting easy for Unit members. Follow the directions on the ballot to vote by mail. **All ballots must be received by Tuesday, November 6.** The election chair, Roy Robinson, will announce the election results at the Unit Game on Sunday, November 11.

**Find the *Kibitzer* on the Unit's website, [www.paloaltobridge.com](http://www.paloaltobridge.com)**

## SEARCH IS ON FOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

Since the early days of the Unit, it has awarded a member the sportsmanship trophy for friendship, a pleasant attitude and the practice of active ethics. Since 2006, it has also honored a member for service to the Unit. The committee, headed by Henryk Szejnwald, will be named soon and will select the recipients for 2012.

They welcome recipient suggestions from Unit members. If you wish to offer names, go to the Unit website, use the boxes at the signup site or email Henryk at [szejnwald@sbcglobal.net](mailto:szejnwald@sbcglobal.net). Specify which award and list a reason why you think the suggested player is worthy of the award. The boxes will be available November 12 for your input. The deadline for proposed candidates is Dec. 1.

## TROPHY RACE ENTERS THE HOMESTRETCH

With four events left in the Winners Trophy race for the most masterpoints earned in the Unit games, Polly Siegel is heading for home with 10 points, holding a sizeable lead over Franklin Gonzalez and Henryk Szejnwald. Among the Non-Life Masters, Andrew Dentai holds a small edge over

Devesh Goyal. These players earned all their points in the Monday Night 199er Swiss. Here are the leaders with their point totals: Polly Siegel-10.0, Franklin Gonzalez-7.1, Henryk Szejnwald-7.1, Andrew Dentai-6.0, Betsy Steele-6.2, Devesh Goyal-5.7, Randy Ryals-5.7, and Sigmund Malek-5.7.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SWISS WINNERS

At the September 16 Unit Game with 15 teams, tops were: in A, Mike Cailean - Gary Macgregor - Jean Barry - Cole Powell; in B, Franklin Gonzalez - Henryk Szejnwald - Sigmund Malek - Jack Clinch; and in C, Amit Garg - Salma Saeed - Fay Zerbo - Audrey

Mitchell. The 199ers Swiss on October 1 had 4 teams with Hedvig Fejerne, Devesh Goyal, Andrew Dentai, Reddy Raju victorious. Thanks as always go to the directors Will Watson and Margot Livensparger.

## NAP FINAL QUALIFIES EIGHT UNIT PLAYERS

In the 14-pair two session Unit North American Pairs final held Sunday, September 23, the winners were: in A, William Laubenheimer and Paul Mcdaniels; in B, Jason Rosenfeld and Jennifer Gu; and in C, Franklin Gonzalez and Henryk Szejnwald. Unit players who qualified for

the District final at the Bayshore BC in 2013 were: Gary Macgregor, Tahir Gokcen, Jim O'Neil, John Schoenbrun in A; Jenny Ewald and Polly Siegel in A and B; and Franklin Gonzalez and Henryk Szejnwald in B.

## UNIT NEWS

**Lost and Found**—The Bridge Center has a new coat rack in the hall across from the kitchen. On it are a number of coats that have been left behind. Please remove them by December 1 or Manager John Mattis will find another home for them.

**Monday Bridge**—If you arrive at the Monday Bridge Center game without a reservation and find it full, there is still time to play. Get to the Monday Think Slam BC at 12:30 at the Unity Church. Walter Miller will be happy to accommodate all players.

**Lectures**—On Tuesday, November 6 at the Bridge Center at 9:45 a.m., Kevin O'Leary will offer insight into "Defending Against Other Bidding Systems."

**Learning Game**—The lessons continue on Saturdays at 9 a.m. at the Bridge Center with these topics: "Reverse Drury" on October 20 and "Fourth-Suit Forcing" on November 10.

**Awards**—Check out the current standings as of September 1 for the Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenney Awards on the Bridge Center bulletin board.

**Read this if You signed up to Volunteer at the Nationals**—Due to a problem on our website, we did not receive the information for people who signed up after Sept. 1. If you signed up during this time or if you aren't sure when you signed up, please sign up again or contact Margot Livenspargar, (760 ) 964-4296, margotlive@aol.com.

**Kathy Harper**—is looking for more volunteers for two of her classes. Her Monday eve 7 to 9 "Polish Your Basics" class needs a few and her Tuesday morning class could use more hands. Contact her at kharper100@aol.com if you can help, even occasionally.

## NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members: Nancy Geschke, Martin Rubenstein, Peggy Rubenstein, Frank Lin

## Palo Alto Unit 503 Board

Sue Griswold, President  
David Crosley, Vice-President  
Margot Livenspargar, Secretary  
Beverly Nuding, Treasurer  
Valerie Baldwin, Steve Barasch,  
Sue Barkley, Keith Burnett, Kevin O'Leary,  
Henryk Szejnwald, Allen Wolman

## NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, November 6 at 3:45 p.m. at the Bridge Center



**Volunteers Still Needed for SF Nationals** to fill our Unit's quota for Sunday, November 25. Just an hour of your time will be a big help. You will be able to play right after your shift. Questions? Call Margot Livenspargar at (760) 964-4296 or contact her at margotlive@aol.com. The list of volunteers has to be in the hands of the National Volunteer Chairman by November 1, so don't miss your chance to participate in the Nationals by playing AND volunteering. Sign up today on the Unit website under News on the Home Page.

## CANDIDATES FOR THE UNIT BOARD

ON PAGES 4-7 ARE PHOTOS, BRIEF BIOS AND PERSONAL GOALS FOR THE BOARD OF EACH CANDIDATE.

**BALLOT ON P.7 CAN BE CUT OUT. FOLLOW SIGNING/MAILING INSTRUCTIONS.**

**AND MANY THANKS TO ROY ROBINSON FOR THESE TERRIFIC PHOTOS!**

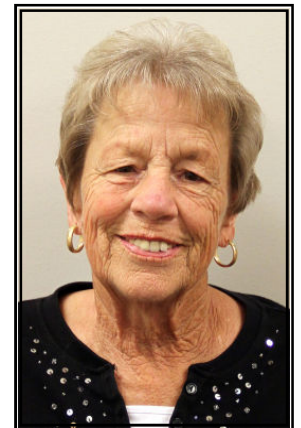
### Valerie Baldwin

Valerie, a Bay Area native, lives in Portola Valley and has a master's degree in Molecular Biology and an MBA. She has long been an active volunteer serving on boards for non-profit organizations. Valerie is co-librarian of the Unit's library and for the past 18 months has been running the successful Unit-sponsored Saturday Learning Game with over 250 players and 50 mentors participating. Having served two years as the Newcomer-Intermediate Liaison, she hopes to be reelected to our Board to continue her work to attract new players and help our 600+ beginner/intermediate players increase their bridge skills.



### Claire Coleman

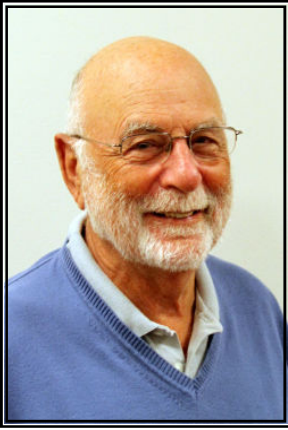
Claire, originally from Montana, has belonged to the Unit for 32 years. She served on our Board for many of those years, being Secretary in 2002 and VP from 2005 to 2007 and even chairing the sectional. She has been a club owner and director since 1987. The Unit Bridge Centers have been her home away from home most of those years and have given her much enjoyment. Once again, Claire would like to give back to the Unit. She'd like to make the Unit a happy place for all players.



### Lee Haze

Now retired, Chicago-born Lee Haze has held numerous jobs in city, county, state and federal governments. He has volunteered at a hospital, at local events and in organizations. Lee learned auction bridge as a child, taught himself rubber and duplicate and taught bridge in a junior college to beginners and intermediates. He has served on boards as president and on committees involving finance and planning. Lee would like to help start and/or continue efforts to bring in more players. Also, Lee feels that the dissatisfaction of some of the Unit members would seem to point out that new people are needed, and so he sees an opportunity to help.





### **Bob Horowitz**

Bob graduated from Yale Law School, worked at a large Wall Street law firm and then as senior partner in a law practice specializing in tax planning. He also served as a probate judge. He has served on the boards of several community organizations and is currently president of a \$200 million private foundation which funds arts education for under served children in New York City schools. He wishes to do his share in helping to run the Unit.



### **Ron Kilgren**

Born, raised and educated in Michigan, Ron Kilgren came to Palo Alto in 1981 on a three-year assignment for Ford and somehow never made it back to his home state. He has played at Unit games since the mid 80's. Ron tells us that he is prone to disappearing for short periods when he pursues his fly fishing passion. Ron has experience in corporate finance, business planning and contract law while working in auto, aerospace, and internet technology companies. He has served on a number of public and private boards and would like to use that experience to serve the Palo Alto Unit



### **Ida Lee**

Ida, a native San Franciscan, says she would be honored to serve possibly one of the finest units in the ACBL. As a former president of the 100-member San Francisco Chinese-American Bridge Unit, she knows the frequent complaints directors are up against, especially slow play. Thus, sensitive seasoned players and board members play a major role in a happy bridge environment. Ida worked for 34 years as an administrator at Stanford University's School of Engineering. She especially enjoys seeing the next generation of bridge players.



### **Todd Makler**

During the two years Todd has lived in the Los Altos area, the bridge community has been a source of pleasure and friendship and Todd is interested in being of service to this group. He hails from Pennsylvania, where he practiced academic Nuclear Medicine until his retirement. His background also includes a consistent role as a finance officer of nonprofit organizations, including medical, church and school groups and he would be willing to serve our Unit as treasurer. Strongly believing that all the actions of the Treasurer should be conducted in such a way that the data is available to interested parties, Todd feels, "People may disagree with the policies/decisions of the Unit – but there should be no feeling that fiscal issues are being handled behind closed doors."

### Hansa Narasimhan

Hansa has been a member of the Palo Alto Unit for 23 years and currently plays many times each week. She earned a Masters in Business Management and believes that this training will serve the Unit well in many Board positions. She has competed successfully at national and international level sanctioned tournaments and has studied with world-famous players. Though she does not play professionally, she has written for the *Kibitzer* and the *Forum* about her experiences. Her true passion is supporting our fabulous game at our elegant new Bridge Center. She wants very much to give back to our club in any way she can.



### Brian Samuels

Brian decided to run because, "I believe being a Board member is one of the ways I can give back to the Unit." He wishes to work on Board communication with all Unit members, including club owners, to help everyone know what the Board is doing. Also, he would like to encourage members to provide feedback to the Board on its performance and to suggest agenda items. For most of his career, Brian has been a senior executive, including CEO, and has served on several corporate and volunteer boards. His previous experience will help him bring skills in communication, organization and leadership to the Board.



### James Stuart-Smith

James Stuart-Smith became an engineer and learned bridge in England. Living in Sunnyvale, he hikes and travels in addition to aiming for Life Master status. He enjoys the challenge of tournament games and is glad to have transferred to the Palo Alto Unit. The recent events at the annual meeting troubled James and he joined the group reviewing the constitution and by-laws, believing he could take a balanced position, listen to and consider all points of view to help heal wounds and move the Unit forward. He is willing to serve on any committee to help accomplish this. He has served on a European Union standards working group and on his homeowner's Association Board.



### Jody Williams

Jody is running for the board because she feels that as a member of the Palo Alto Unit for nearly 20 years, it is time she gave back to the Unit. She is interested in improving the organization and communication of the Board. Projects that Jody feels could help with this include a handbook for new board members containing such items as our bylaws, the responsibilities of each office, operating procedures, identifying important decisions from the past, guidelines for developing budgets and information organization and document retention policies. Jody retired from a career in software design and development. She frequently served as a team lead, technical lead, manager, and technical program manager, with experience in detail-oriented planning, and conducting meetings.



Junior Master	5 MP	Ralph Griffin, Susan Griffin, Ben Kuckens, Diana Lloyd, Deborah Machlin, Kathleen Manchuk, Ginny Strock
Club Master	20 MP	Mary Driscoll, Theresa Iantosca, Khalid Kazi, Deanna Mann, Alan Polish, Betty Robison, John Verhagen,
Sectional Master	50 MP	Kirsten Gildersleeve, Donald Vance
Regional Master	100 MP	Eric Byler, Matthew Kaufman, Carolyn Taylor, Peggy Wheeler
NABC Master	200 MP	Omer Barnir, Sona Bhambhra, Barbara Hansen, Deborah Levin
Life Master	300 MP	Diana Lowe, Eileen Zefting
Bronze Life Master	500 MP	Florin Constantin, Diana Lowe
Silver Life Master	1000 MP	Kathie Shaw

### PLAYER ADVANCEMENTS

The October ACBL report shows that the players identified at the left have moved up. Congratulations to all!

## OFFICIAL BALLOT – 2012 ELECTION - UNIT 503

Select no more than five (5) candidates including write-ins.

**As required by the bylaws, the Board recommends the following candidates chosen by the Nominating Committee:**

Valerie Baldwin (incumbent) \_\_\_\_ Bob Horowitz \_\_\_\_ Todd Makler \_\_\_\_  
 Brian Samuels \_\_\_\_ James Stuart-Smith \_\_\_\_

**Additional candidates:**

Claire Coleman \_\_\_\_ Lee Haze \_\_\_\_ Ron Kilgren \_\_\_\_ Ida Lee \_\_\_\_  
 Hansa Narasimhan \_\_\_\_ Jody Williams \_\_\_\_

Write Ins \_\_\_\_\_

Only a ballot received in a sealed envelope with a Unit member's LEGIBLE name, signature and date on the outside is valid.

Deposit envelope/ballot in box at your local club or mail it to  
**Roy Robinson, 539 Los Ninos Way, Los Altos CA 94022-1728**

All games take place at our Bridge Center, 432A Stierlin Road Mountain View 94043, unless otherwise noted.

DAY	BRIDGE CLUB	TYPE	TIME	DIRECTOR(S)	PLACE/ OTHER I NFO
MON	Monday Morning	Open/Strat.	11.30 a.m.	John Schwartz	Bridge Center reservations necessary. Website or
	Monday Morning	<100,<500	11.30 a.m.	John Schwartz	Bridge Center signup123.com/jsbridge
	Mon. Think Slam BC	<100,<300,Open	12:30 p.m.	Walter Miller	Unity Church 3391 Middlefield Rd, PA
TUES	Tuesday Noon BC	<100,<300,Open	12:00 p.m.	Walter Miller	Unity Church, YES Rm, 3391 Middlefield Rd, PA
	Alpine BC	Open/Strat/	12:00 p.m.	O'Leary/Watson/	Bridge Center
	Alpine BC	299er		Saunders	
WED.	Bridge 'n Brunch	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	Will Watson	Bridge Center
	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	Bridge Center
	Lori & Sue's Dblton Club	< 499 M.P.	7:00 p.m.	Spaeth/Johnston	Bridge Center
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	Bridge Center
	Thurs. Afternoon 49er		12.00 p.m.	Will Watson	Bridge Center
FRI	The EZ Game	<30 M.P.	9:00 a.m.	John Williams	Bridge Center
	Friday Morning BC	Open/Strat.	10:30 a.m.	Claire Coleman	Bridge Center
	Friday Night Barometer	Open/Strat.	7:30 p.m.	Will Watson	Bridge Center
SAT	One Club	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	John Prior	Bridge Center

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Class-Learning game, Saturday, Oct. 20 at 9 a.m. Bridge Center
- Sectional, Saturday, Oct. 20 at Harbor HS, Santa Cruz
- Unit Mentor/Mentee game, Sun. Oct. 21 at 1 p.m., Bridge Center
- Unit Lecture, Tuesday, Oct. 23, 9:45 a.m., Bridge Center
- Sectional, Friday, Oct. 26 at West Valley College, Saratoga
- Sectional, Thurs. Nov. 1 at Bridge Center, Fresno
- Sectional, Sat. November 3 at El Cerrito, Community Center
- 199er Unit Swiss Teams, Mon. Nov. 5 at 6:30 p.m., Bridge Center
- Unit Lecture, Tues. Nov. 6 at 9:45 a.m., Bridge Center
- Class-Learning game, Sat. Nov. 10 at 9 a.m., Bridge Center
- Sectional, Saturday, Nov. 10, at Iron Horse Middle School, San Ramon
- Pot Luck, Sun., Nov. 11 at noon at Bridge Center
- Election & Open & 199er Unit Pairs, Sunday, Nov. 11 at 1 p.m., Bridge Center
- Upgraded Club Champ. Wed. Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. Doubleton BC (Sign-up)
- Sectional, Friday, Nov.16 at Holy Redeemer Ctr, Oakland
- San Francisco NABC, Wednesday, Nov.21- Sunday, Dec. 2 Marriott Hotel

### Club Closings

Wednesday, Nov. 21 - Doubleton Club  
 Thursday, Nov. 22 - Thurs. Morning JCC BC, Thurs. Afternoon BC  
 Friday, Nov. 23 - Friday Morn BC. EZ Bridge (to be confirmed)

### During SF Nationals

**Open:** Sat. Nov. 24 and Dec. 1 - One Club, Sun. Nov. 25 - Sunday Afternoon BC, Mon. Nov. 26 Mon. Think Slam BC, Tues. Nov. 27 - Tuesday Noon BC  
 Wed. Nov. 28 - Wed. Aft 49er, Fri. Nov. 30 - Friday Morning BC and EZ bridge

### Club Contacts

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