



PLAYERS HOT FOR UNIT BRIDGE IN AUGUST

Join your fellow players for a sizzling game of bridge at the Unit Pairs on Sunday, August 12 at 1 p.m. at the Bridge Center. The contest will have two sections: an open and a 199er. To help in the planning, please sign up on the Unit web site or on the list at the Bridge Center. Bring your smile. Unit events are first-rate - good competition, good fun, good friends and good eats. Sunday Unit games will continue in the coming months.

The Swiss reigned at the Bridge Center in June and July during team play. In the 15 team open field at the June 24 Unit game, two teams tied for first: Margery Yates - Betsy Steele - Doug Burke - Kevin Schoenfeld and Polly Siegel - Randy Ryals - Han-Yu Chang - Chris Chung. The team of Rick Flucke - Omer Barnir - Kal Aziz

- Akiko Murakami topped the five other teams in A and Nancy Kehl - Paul Davis - Marcelo Gumucio - Nancy Sabbag were victorious in B. In the July 9, 199er seven team Monday Night Swiss, the team of Barbara Hansen-Carolyn Taylor - Wendy Benveniste-Helen LaRash won the cheese.

Thanks go to Keith Burnett, the Unit Game Chair, and to Will Watson and Margot Livensparger for their efforts in directing the events.

Upcoming Unit games include Swiss on Sept. 16, a pot-luck election party on Nov. 11, and Holiday Pairs on Dec. 16. Plus 199er Swiss on Sept. 10, Oct. 1, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

DO NOT PASS, BID FOR THE UNIT BOARD

In order to continue to sustain the quality of our Board, we are seeking volunteers for the Board in 2013. The term of office is two years with half of the board up for election every year. The Board meets monthly. Responsibilities run from serving as an officer, securing art exhibits, representing the Unit at District meetings and performing other duties. There are so many of you who have a great deal to offer. Please consider giving some of your time and talents to help the Unit to continue to represent the views of all Unit members and to offer players the best games and best place to play.

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

Elections for the Unit 503 Board of Directors will be held in November. The election chair hopes to sign up more nominees than are necessary to fill the five board vacancies. One candidate will need book-keeping and accounting skills, especially with a working knowledge of Quicken, that would qualify him or her for the 2013 Treasurer position. If you are interested in filling this or other spots on the Board, or if you know someone who might be interested, please contact Susana Krulevitch at (650) 948-8882, susana440@sbcglobal.net.

DO YOU KNOW . . . ?

BY SUE JOHNSTON

Do you know that in tournament play the ACBL requires all partnerships to have two identical convention cards, legibly filled out and accessible to the opponents throughout each session? Although, as club directors, we don't strictly enforce this regulation at club games, there are two very good reasons why you and your partner should comply:

1. The convention card is a simple way in which to make all your partnership agreements available to opponents, a requirement under Law 40 of the *Laws of Duplicate Bridge* – and a requirement of the ACBL's Active Ethics policy.

2. Surprisingly, this regulation also protects you and your partner. If your partner forgets a convention and makes the wrong bid, but you correctly alert and explain your partnership agreement to the opponents, your convention cards serve as proof of that agreement. This could be the difference between a *mistaken call* ruling and a *mistaken information* ruling. Do you know the difference between these two rulings? If not, ask your friendly neighborhood director – or stay tuned for future "Do You Know . . ." articles.

GO FOR THE SILVER AT STAC

The Olympic athletes are going for the gold and the bridge players are striving for the silver at the Great Western Summer Fun STAC V. One of the three largest sectionals in the world, it is being held the week of August 22-28. No need to travel to London for the precious medal, you can win silver points right here at your Unit club games. As with the other STAC's, the pair overalls will

be computed across all participating clubs in the Western Region. The masterpoint levels and strat limits are set by the STAC sponsor. All STAC games will be pairs except the one at the Thursday Afternoon BC which will be a Swiss Teams and the Sunday, August 26, whether pairs/Swiss is to be announced. To review the STAC schedule, refer to the back page.

UNIT DAY AT NATIONALS

The North American Bridge Championships (NABC) are coming to San Francisco November 22-December 2. Sunday, November 25 is Palo Alto Unit's day to staff the volunteer desks.

The times range from 8-9 a.m. to 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Novices and Intermediates are particularly needed for the 9-10 a.m., 2-3p.m., and 6:30-7:30

p.m. These are right before the I/N games and you will be released in time to play in those games. Novices, Intermediates, Everyone! There is room for all to participate. Be nice and volunteer for more than one slot! Check your schedule, see when you're available, then email Margot Livenspargar, at margotlive@aol.com, if you can help. Or call (760) 964-4296.

UNIT NEWS

Picture Please—To help in matching names and faces, the Unit would like a volunteer(s) to take photos of players for posting on the web site and in the archives. Haven't you wondered countless times whom someone is talking about? When members hear a name in the news or someone does something special or passes away, they can find out who it is with these photos. If you have an interest in this project, please notify Sue Griswold, (650) 852-1235, sue_g@sbcglobal.net or Lori Spaeth (650) 906-3987, lespaeth@gmail.com.

NAP—Take advantage of these opportunities to qualify for the Unit final at a Unit club game on Wednesday, July 18 at Bridge 'n Brunch at 11 a.m., Wednesday, July 25 at Doubleton BC at 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 31 at Alpine BC at noon, Wednesday, August 8 at the Doubleton BC at 7 p.m., Wednesday, Aug 15 at Bridge 'n Brunch at 11 a.m. and Thursday, August 9 at Thursday Afternoon BC at noon.

Two Club Transfers—What is it? Sue Johnston has sold her Wednesday game. The new host for Bridge 'n Brunch, which meets at 11 a.m. at the Bridge Center, is Will Watson. Cameron Cotton has also sold his Alpine BC Tuesday game, which is at noon at the Bridge Center, to the ownership trio: Will Watson, Prue Saunders, Kevin O'Leary.

49er Games—Here's the chance for players just beginning to earn masterpoints to play with those of equal skill. There are two clubs holding 49er games: the Wednesday game at the Unity Church at 1 p.m. and the Thursday Afternoon game at noon at the Bridge Center. Also try The EZGame on Friday at 9 a.m. at the Bridge Center for those with fewer than 30 points.

Lectures—The Lecture Series will continue in September with details posted on the Unit web site and notification sent to the Lecture Series mailing list. The next *Kibitzer* will also have information on the schedule and topics. If you wish to be on the mailing list -- or have suggestions for topics, speakers or improvements to the series -- contact

schwerer@sbcglobal.net. Thanks to Fred Schwerer, three copies of the lectures indexed by date, subject and lecturer are available for check out from the Bridge Center library. Enjoy.

Mentee Game—There will be no game in August. The games will resume on September 8 and 22.

Library—Are you an avid reader of Frank Stewart's bridge column in the *Mercury*? If so, you might enjoy books recently donated to our Unit library. They are: *The Bridge Book - Beginning Players - Vol 1, Intermediate Players - Vol 2, Advanced Players - Vol 3, Defensive Play - Vol 4*. Frank Stewart has been involved with bridge as a journalist, author, editor, competitor, teacher and creator of the popular bridge column.

Convention Cards—Check out the convention card program on bridgewinners.com. The website has a free on-line convention card editor that you can use to create, print and share cards with your regular and new partners. This will help avoid some of the problems described in Sue Johnston's, "Do you Know?" Find Sue's first column on p.2.

Bridge/Basketball Lecture - by Stanford's Tara Van-Derveer! Thursday, Sept 6 at the Bridge Center 10 to 11 a.m. \$5 per person.

Reservations: Lori Spaeth lespaeth@gmail.com

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, August 7 at 3:45 p.m. at the Bridge Center

MEMBERSHIP MEETING CONTINUATION

Tuesday, August 14 at 3:45 p.m. at the Bridge Center

A BIGGER THAN BIG FIRECRACKER

Yes, the Unit staged a fabulous Firecracker at the Santa Clara Convention Center on June 27-July 1. The 1058.5 tables exceeded the previous record of 1050 set in 2009. Congratulations to every one of the Unit members who helped make this possible, especially Tournament Co-chairs, Steve Barasch and Allen Wolman, their 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 240 tables and Friday second with 233. The table summary for all the session was: Wed first 102.5, second 79; Thurs 118, 79; Fri 122, 111; Sat 132, 108, Sun 105, 102. The open pairs table count was 326.5, 199er pairs 116.5, 49er pairs 73.5, KO 240 and Swiss 302.

Steve Barasch reported an income of \$1044. The *Kibitzer* will print a detailed financial report in the September issue.

Fireflies

These members were the glow worms who lit the way for the players to the Firecracker tournament:

Hospitality-Chair, Sioux Atkinson with Annie Green, Kay Miller, Randee Palmer, Joan Bower, Marian Kelly, Alice Arnold, Sue Griswold, Alan Polish, Karen Kulander, Linda and John Mattis.

Thanks to Chris Bunz who did the graphics for the big banner and the sky rocket arrow signs and to Sioux's husband Bill who donated the materials and printed the big banner and the standup Statue of Liberty.

Partnership Co- Chairs, Carol Chaney & Valerie Baldwin with Valerie Hatton, Minnette Diamond, Kathleen Kelly, Leslie Kelly, Joe and Dori Foster, Fran Bennett, Steve Lubeck, Bev Benson, Todd Makler, Merle Orelove, Kathie Shaw, Linda and John Mattis, Euo Menezes, Margot Livensparger, Merry Stephenson, Mary Radin.

Caddies-Chair, Josephine Ventura with Beth Luttrell, Amy Suzuki, Jessica Laycock, Brandon Cochran, Ryan Sato, Winston Shustock, Emily Cook, Jessica and Elizabeth Arnold, Cornelius and Claire Duffie.

Set-up/Take down Chair, Allen Wolman with Jan Samuels, Fred Schwerer, Alan Cummings, John Hornback, Linda Mattis, John Mattis, Kevin O'Leary, Hal Harbatkin, James Stuart-Smith, Elinor Tanck, Bob Scheidtmann, Eusebio Menezes, Jolly Perkocha, Randee Palmer, Sioux Atkinson.

Sparklers

Congratulations to those who finished first overall in their respective strata at the Firecracker: Nick Ward (2), Kip Kado (2), Mukund Thapa (2), Polly Siegal, Carl Wolf, Alexandra Narasin, Dana Bisconti, Michele Musy, Eusebio Menezes, Nick Ward, Gillian Barsley, Paul Barsley, John Verhagen, Barbara Sonsini, Franklin Gonzalez, Henryk Szejnwald, Sigmund Malek, Eugene Hung, Jim O'Neil, Kathy Harper, Donald Rothschild, Marc Cohen, Janice Flowers-Sonne, Greg Manchuk, Kathleen Manchuk, Gerry Gassman, Bette Hirsch, John Verhagen - Mary Driscoll, John Fisher - Catharine Fisher, James Stuart-Smith, Annette Bialson, David Crosley, Joan Bower, Todd Makler, Sue Bockmann, Vera Mackenzie, Claire Shoens, Paula Miller, Andrew Dentai, Nancy Roey, Hal Roey, Russell Norman, Gary Macgregor, Tahir Gokcen, Samuel Jeong, Charles Epps, Beverly Nuding, Beverly Bernhardt, Dorothy Shannahan, G. Keith Burnett, Carol Burnett, Bob Ward, Nancy Ward, Anne Ward, Nick Ward, Mukund Thapa, Polly Siegel, Florence Yoshikawa, Tad Yoshikawa. We apologize if we missed anyone.

NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members: Hazel Anker, Donna Barreto, Joanna Beyer, Phyllis Bismanovsky, Carol Clarke, Brandon Herren, Jeanne Kennedy, Kristina Myers, Carol-Ann Ackerman, Rita Rubenfeld and Anne Steiner.

COMING ATTRACTION — 299ER SECTIONAL

The Unit Board has approved a proposal from Alan Cummings to consider a 299er Sectional at our Bridge Center in the first half of 2013. Sixty-eight percent of the 983 members of our Unit are Non-Life Masters, aspiring to learn the great game of bridge and for recognition of their achievements.

Our teachers have provided the fundamentals with bridge lessons, classes and seminars and their application in competition. It takes a lot of work to present a Sectional and have everyone enjoy the experience. Please volunteer now! Contact Alan at alan.cummings@stanford.edu and join in. Hospitality, partnerships, publicity, etc. We want you! Happy Bridge!

2012 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 their respective strata: Ace- Issie Rabinovitch, Russell Norman, Paul C Li, Todd Makler, Andrew Dentai, Rick Flucke, Don-Min Tsou, Metin Gokcen, Fung Bao, Lori Spaeth, Patricia Chambers, Hansa Narasimhan, Hamish Bennett; Mini-McKenney- Winston Huang, Russell Norman, Paul Li, Todd Makler, Naren K Gupta, Barbara Shukov, Don-Min Tsou, Vinita Gupta, Franklin Gonzalez, Geeske Joel, Hansa Narasimhan, Mary Ann Berg, Hamish Bennett. The Unit has posted the compete list at the Bridge Center.

FIRECRACKER BENEFITS SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK

WOW!! Nine Barrels of Food and \$6,335 in donations with 1–1 match = \$12,670!

Thanks to the generosity of all who enjoyed the 2012 Firecracker, SHFB’s Share Your Lunch program will benefit young people in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. For the one in five children in those counties who rely on school meals, summer only brings long days filled with hunger.

Thanks go to Alan Cummings and Pete Klebofski for organizing the fund drive again in 2012, and to Allen Wolman and Steve Barasch, our Tournament Chairs, and the ACBL directors for their help in promoting the drive. Also, thanks to those who made donations at events at the Burlington Bridge Club and at the Palo Alto Bridge Center. It was a great success! Let’s do it again next year. We’re All Champions at Fighting Hunger!

PLAYER ADVANCEMENTS

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

Junior Master	5 MP	Jayne Lipe, Paula Miller, John Verhagen
Club Master	20 MP	Jenny Blaschke, Richard Herzog
Sectional Master	50 MP	Sari Staver, Richard Yu
Regional Master	100 MP	Sally Ahnge, Jeanine Ardourel, A Jim Blum
NABC Master	200 MP	Marc Cohen
Life Master	300 MP	Don-Min Tsou
Bronze Life Master	500 MP	Don-Min Tsou
Silver Life Master	1000 MP	Paul McEleney, Nancy Rude
Diamond Life Master	5000 MP	Helen Corbin

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	<500,<100	11.30 a.m.	John Schwartz	Bridge Center signup123.com/jsbridge/
TUES	Tuesday Noon BC	Open/Strat.	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/ Saunders	Bridge Center
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
	Lori & Sue's Dblton Club < 99 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.	Marolyn Yancey	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
SUN	Sunday Afternoon BC	Open/Strat	1:00 p.m.	Coleman/Watson	Bridge Center

SPECIAL EVENTS

- * NAP Qual. game Wednesday, July 18 at 11 a.m., Bridge 'n Brunch
- * Lesson, Review hands, lessons 9-16, Sat. July 21 at 9 a.m., Bridge Center
- * NAP Qual. game, Wednesday July 25 at 7 p.m., Doubleton Club, sign up
- * NAP Qual. Game Tuesday, July 31 at noon, Alpine BC.
- * Sectional, Friday, August 3 at Castro Valley, Transfiguration Church
- * 199er Unit Swiss Teams Monday, August 6 at 6:30 p.m., Bridge Center
- * NAP Qual. game, Wednesday August 8 at 7 p.m., Doubleton Club (sign up)
- * NAP Qual. Game Thursday, August 9 at noon, Thursday Afternoon BC.
- * NLM Sectional, Saturday August 11 at Fresno Bridge Center
- * Unit Open and 199er Pairs, Sunday, August 12 at 1 p.m., Bridge Center
- * NAP Qual. Game Wednesday, Aug 15 at 11 a.m., Bridge 'n Brunch.
- * Sectional, Wednesday, August 15 at Sparks, NV, Ascuaga's Casino Resort
- * Sectional, Saturday, August 18 at Janet Pomeroy Ctr, San Francisco
- * Pairs STAC, Mon. Aug. 20–Sun. Aug 26 all games except Swiss below
- * Swiss Teams STAC, Thurs. Aug. 23 at noon, Thursday Afternoon BC
- * Regional, Tues., August 28 at Santa Clara, Hyatt Regency
- * Bridge & Basketball, lecture by Tara VanDerveer, Sept, 6. \$5.

Club Closings

- * EZ Bridge, Friday, Aug. 24
- * No games from Tuesday evening, Aug. 28 through Monday, Sept. 3
except Wed. Aft 49er at Unity Church at 1 p.m. will be OPEN

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