



UNIT STAGES HOLIDAY HIT

Ho! Ho! Ho! A cheer heard at the Unit Holiday party on Sunday, December 18. A "Ho" rings out for the turkey, ham and trimmings and for the potluck buffet and another "Ho" for the toy donations and a last "Ho" for the bridge fun. President Sue Griswold introduced several IFES members who provided the venue and announced Betty Liddicoat, winner of the Sportsmanship Award and Mike Atherton, winner of the Service Award.

Santa's elves were there to make sure everyone had lots of goodies and a fine time. Where do we start with our thanks: to Beverly Nuding for organizing and cooking the turkey and ham and her husband, Pete, and Dennis Dzura for carving; to greeter Valerie

Baldwin; to Keith Burnett for publicity; to Keith and Kevin O'Leary for toy delivery to the Mountain View community Center; to photographer, Pete Nuding; to bridge directors, Kevin O'Leary and Gabriella Bowling; and, lastly, to Keith, Lori Spaeth, Sue Griswold, Carolyn Chaney, Elinor Tanck and so many others who helped with set-up and clean-up. A special thanks goes to all those who brought oodles of goodies for everyone's enjoyment. All had a good time, especially the game winners: Fung Bao - Prudence Saunders in A, George Paris - John Williams in B and Beverly Bernhardt - Sharon Krawetz in C in the 27 ½- table Open and Ron and Joan Smith in A and Khalid Kazi - Raghu Munthy in B in the 9-table 199er flights.



CAN YOU HELP? PLEASE CONSIDER THESE THREE UNIT NEEDS:

- The Unit wishes to locate a Unit member who is affiliated with the Mountain View Buddhist Temple on North Shoreline Blvd to discuss a mutual parking agreement. If you are with this organization or know someone who is, please contact Bob Lawrence at (650) 967-7373.
- \$\$\$\$\$ All that money should get your attention! The Unit will need a new treasurer for January 2013. If you have an accounting or bookkeeping background and would be interested in the office we would like to hear from you. The time involved is about 10 hours a month plus an hour or two attending the monthly meeting.
- The Unit needs someone willing to help the Unit Game chair, Keith Burnett, to welcome the players at the monthly Sunday game, to organize the announcements at the club games and to bring a party atmosphere to the events. Please let Keith (408) 867-5279, keithsr@gmail.com or Sue, sue_g@sbcglobal.net, (650) 852-1235, know of your interest.

TAHIR GOKCEN VICTOR IN WINNERS TROPHY

Trophy chair, David Crosley, has announced the standings for the 2011 Unit Winners Trophy for the most points scored in the year's Unit games. In the Open contest Tahir Gokcen led the way with Henryk Szejnald second. For the non-Life Masters with under 300 points, Devesh Goyal had the best result with 9.77 points and Hedvig Fejerne finished second with

8.15. The final results for the leaders are: Tahir Gokcen-17.16, Henryk Szejnwald-15.71, Frank Gonzalez-14.02, Don Rothschild-13.39, Kathy Harper-10.23, Polly Siegel-9.88, Devesh Goyal-9.77, Betsy Steele-9.72, Chris Lazarovici-9.49, Marge Yates-9.06.

WINNERS BY TWO PHONE CALLS

At the recent Palm Springs Regional, the KO's were very popular. Ginger Herrick and Marge Yates were in bracket 2, where cell phones decided the outcome. The first call occurred in their first round. An opponent not only got a call on her cell phone, but she answered it and talked. The Director penalized her threeimps. Our heroes won that round by two. In the final round, both teams had experienced players and after the round was over, both teams independently scored the results and agreed that G & M & Co. had won by fourimps.

One of their opponents left for his motel. Results were reported and champagne uncorked. Oops, wait! About 15 minutes later an opponent said (correctly, it turns out) that the reported score was incorrect and that the match was a dead tie. Now, for the second phone call to reach the departed teammate. No answer. Therefore, now it's time for the celebration toast for Ginger Herrick, Marge Yates, Jim Merzon and Kevin Schoenfeld.

UNIT NEWS

199er Swiss - The monthly Monday Night 199er Swiss Teams will resume Monday, February 6 at 6:30 p.m. at the IFES Hall. Limited to <200 point team average.

A Great Convention Card Creator and Editor— bridgewinners.com is a free online bridge community that features a collaborative online convention card editor, articles by experts (allowing community members to interact and comment on the articles), member blogs, polls, bridge problems and videos. There's a nice article about our own Geeske Joel on it.

Updated Directory— The Palo Alto Members and Friends Directory is issued once a year and is given free to all Unit 503 members. Lori Spaeth plans to distribute it after the new Bridge Center opens.

New Center Progress - After receiving approvals from the health and city inspectors on Dec. 19 and 20, construction finally resumed and our building is finally taking shape. The walls and ceiling are insulated and drywall is up. Taping/mudding is nearly complete. The next big steps are installing the t-bar ceiling and lighting, installing the carpet, painting

and completing installation of the kitchen. The Board has approved the selection and purchase of the carpet, wall colors, and new chairs. Hopefully, all will be ready for us to move in by the first of March for us to move in. We've established a fund to pay for improvements to our new Bridge Center. If you'd like to contribute, please send your check, payable to Unit 503, to our Treasurer: Bev Nuding, 3181 Melendy Drive, San Carlos, CA 94070 or give it to a member of the Board. If you would like to earmark your donation to a specific item, please let us know.

Up, Up and Away - Roy Robinson missed the December Holiday Party because he was flying to Africa to climb 18,000 foot Mount Kilimanjaro. The group spent seven days on the mountain, and Roy almost made it to the top, running out of air at 17,750 ft. The rest of the trip was just as exciting and probably more relaxing with a safari at Tanzania's Serengeti National Park.

PLAYER ADVANCEMENTS

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

Junior Master	5 MP	Woon Lee, Kay Miller, Judy Tanigami, Anne Ward
Club Master	20 MP	Charlotte Carlson, Barbara Fregoso, Bret Schaefer
Sectional Master	50 MP	Brahm Levin, Elsbeth Newfield, Nan Roey
Regional Master	100 MP	Barbara Hansen, David Puryear
Life Master	300 MP	Jennifer Sheppard, Isha Thapa
Bronze Life Master	500 MP	Vinita Gupta, Annette Laird
Silver Life Master	1000 MP	Gabrielle Uz
Gold Life Master	2500 MP	Tahir Gokcen

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, January 31 at 3:45 p.m. at the
IFES Hall.



NEW TWO OVER ONE CLASS

John Schwartz and John Williams will be teaching an updated, slightly different version of their Two Over One course at the Jewish Community Center on Monday mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. starting January 23 and running through April 1. This course covers the two over one bidding systems and several other systems. It is designed for bridge players who have a minimum of one year's experience playing duplicate bridge. Sessions consist of lectures, comprehensive course notes, exercises and practice hands. Cost is \$75.

For more information contact John Schwartz at (650) 324-2424 or jrpdy@yahoo.com

NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members: Therese Kristensen, Christina McKinney, Nasrin Tarakolfan, Ruby Chow, Roy Demmon, Peter Mork and Moira Murphy.

HERE'S THE UNIT LINEUP FOR 2012

It's a new year with new officers and a new team. If any other member has an interest, please contact Sue because fresh faces are always welcome. The officers are Sue Griswold-President, David Crosley-Vice President, Margot Livensparkgar-Secretary, Bev Nuding-Treasurer. The committee chairs are:

Art Coordinator	Sue Barkley
Bridge Center Manager	John Mattis
Club Owner Liaison	Kevin O'Leary
Computer Support	Will Watson, Henryk Szejnwald
Conduct/Ethics	Eric Mayefsky, Sue Johnston
District 21 Rep	David Crossley, Alan Wolman
District 21 Forum	Marian Kelly
Education	Lori Spaeth, Valerie Baldwin
Education Fund	Mukund Thapa, Fred Schwerer
Election	Susana Krulevitch
Firecracker	Steve Barasch, Alan Wolman
Intermediate/Newcomer Liaison	Lori Spaeth, Valerie Baldwin
Kibitzer Editors	Elinor Tanck, Marian Kelly
Library	Valerie Baldwin, Fran Bennett
Membership	Sue Barkley
Mentor Program	Kathie Shaw, Merle Orelove
Photographer	Roy Robinson
Publicity-Unit Games	Elinor Tanck
Recorder	Eric Mayefsky, Sue Johnston
Sunshine	Fran Rappaport
Supplies	Dave Wheeler
Telephone Directory	Lori Spaeth
Trophies	Henryk Szejnwald
Unit Games	Keith Burnett
Unit Electronic Contact	Elinor Tanck
Web Site	Alan Templeton

WHEN DO WE PLAY TWO BOARDS PER ROUND AND WHEN DO WE PLAY THREE?

BY SUE JOHNSTON AND LORI SPAETH

We have been questioned about why we frequently play two boards per round rather than three in our Wednesday night 199er game. We thought it would be helpful if we explained the reasoning.

Duplicate bridge is based on score comparisons. Ideally, each pair should play each opposing pair and every pair should play every board. Bridge movements are developed with this concept in mind. We choose the movement that provides the best comparison; that is, the movement that gives the fairest results.

The game always begins with the same number of boards on each table. If we start with two boards on each table with 14 tables in play, there are a total of 28 boards being played. Our Wednesday night players play 24 boards; therefore, each pair will play 24/28 of the total boards, or about 86%. Twelve rounds will be played, so each pair will play 12/14 of their opponents, or about 86%. If there is a half-table, sit-out pairs will play 22/28 of the boards and 11/13 of their opponents, or 79% and 85%, respectively. These pairs will sit-out for about 15 minutes.

Look at what happens if we start with three boards on each table. There are now a total of 42 boards in play, and the players will play eight rounds. Pairs that don't sit-out will now play 24/42 of the total boards and 8/14 of the opposing pairs, or about 57%. Sit-out pairs

will play 7/13 opposing pairs, or 63%, and 21/42 of the total boards – only half! They will be sitting out for about 21 minutes. If you and your best friends were both sitting North/South in this game, and you went out after the game to compare your scores, you might discover that you had played only six boards in common. If this was the sit-out direction, you might have played only three boards in common! Effectively, you were playing in two different games.

Directors cannot control the number of players coming to our games, but we do have options when choosing the movements we run. In a 24-board game with fewer than twelve tables in play, three-board rounds usually provide the best comparison. Eight tables yield the ideal: pairs play all opponents and all boards. With 12 to 15 tables in play, the movements that give the best comparisons are two-board movements. Twelve tables yield the ideal: pairs play all opponents and all boards. With sixteen or more tables – and enough sets of boards – we can split the group into two sections and play three-board rounds. Although not ideal, since pairs will play only half their opponents, in the sixteen-table two-section movement, all pairs will play all the boards.

LEARN MORE: FRANK, LORI AND SUE'S CLASS STARTS SOON!

Intermediate Bridge Classes focus on intermediate bidding and intermediate/advanced concepts of play. This series is for bridge players who have a minimum of one year's experience playing duplicate bridge. Our course lecturer is the very popular Frank Smoot who has taught bridge to beginners and above in Palo Alto for 15+ years. Frank, Lori Spaeth, Sue Johnston and our wonderful volunteers give students individual attention which helps our students learn in a fun environment. The classes held at the IFES Hall begin on Thursday, February 2 for 12 weeks through April 26 (except February 16). Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for study, with class from 7:15 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Register on line. For more information, please contact Lori Spaeth at (650) 906-3987 lespaeth@gmail.com.

All games take place at IFES Hall, 432 Stierlin Road 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	IFES Hall
	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
	Alpine BC	Open/Strat	12:00 p.m.	Will Watson	IFES Hall
	Grand Slam Club	Open/Strat.	7:00 p.m.	Marolyn Yancey	IFES Hall
WED.	Bridge 'n Brunch	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	Sue Johnston	IFES Hall
	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	IFES Hall
THUR	Lori & Sue's Dblton Club	<200 M.P.	7:00 p.m.	Spaeth/Johnston	IFES Hall
	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	IFES Hall
FRI	The EZ Game	<30 M.P.	9:00 a.m.	Marolyn Yancey	IFES Hall
	Friday Morning BC	Open/Strat.	10:30 a.m.	Claire Coleman	IFES Hall
	Friday Night Barometer	Open/Strat.	7:30 p.m.	Will Watson	Bayshore B.C. 1300 Old Bayshore Hwy, Burlingame
SAT	One Club	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	John Prior	Bayshore Bridge Club, Burlingame

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Sectional, Saturday, January 28 at Hart Middle School, Pleasanton
- 199er Swiss Teams, Monday, Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m., IFES Hall
- Sectional, Thursday, Feb.9 at Bridge Center, Fresno
- Regional, Tuesday, Feb.14 at Marriott, Santa Clara
- Sectional, Saturday, Feb. 25 at Pomeroy Center, San Francisco.

Clubs Closed

- Tuesday, February 7, Grand Slam Club
- Tuesday, February 14, Grand Slam Club
- Wednesday, February 15, Bridge 'n Brunch, Doubleton BC
- Thursday, February 16, Thursday Morning JCC BC, Thurs. Afternoon BC
- Friday, February 17, EZ Game, Friday Morning BC, Friday Night Barometer
- Saturday, February 18, One Club
- Monday, February 20 Bridge Mix

Clubs Open

- Tuesday, February 14 Alpine BC at Noon, IFES; Tuesday Afternoon BC at Noon, Unity Church,
- Wednesday, February 15 Wed. Aft. 49er at 1 p.m., Unity Church

Club Contacts

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 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
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