



ALOHA! A HAWAII WELCOMING AT THE SUNDAY, APRIL 21 UNIT GAME

Who will be doing the hula? Will the winning players be dancing with joy? Come and discover Hawaiian magic at the Bridge Center at the Unit Charity Swiss Teams on Sunday, April 21 with Open and 199er flights. With leis for all, there will be prizes, and a luau at noon of special island dishes with a tropical fruit punch and pineapple upside down cake for dessert. The game begins promptly at 1 p.m. Proceeds from this event go to the ACBL Charity Foundation. To help with the planning it is important to pre-register your team. Please remember to list your team with contact info on the

Unit web site or on the sheet at the Bridge Center - - it's possible that sudden drop-ins may not be able to play. Join us for this Swiss Team treat with an opportunity for everyone to win extra points. Remember the greeting for your partner and other players is "Aloha" with a smile.

It will be April Fools Day! But the 199ers will play all their tricks at the Monday Nite Swiss Teams on Monday, April 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bridge Center. There is an optional sign-up on the Unit web site.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAKE A RESERVATION FOR MONTHLY UNIT GAMES

The success of Sunday Unit games depends on our knowing how many people plan to attend. Therefore, it is critical that everyone reserve in advance either on the web site or on the sign-up sheet at the Bridge Center. That way we can plan on having the right number of boards, a nice lunch for everyone and adequate director staff. The next six Sunday Unit games will all be Swiss Teams, where it is vitally important

that we know the number of teams in advance. If a team does not reserve in advance, we will try to accommodate the team, but there is no guarantee that the team can be seated if to do so will delay the start of the game promptly at 1 p.m. The Swiss Team format has proven to be very popular and we want them to run just as smoothly as pairs games do.

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

MARCH MARDI-GRAS BRIDGE ARRIVES

Players enjoyed carnival time as they came for the Sunday, March 10 Unit Open and 199er Swiss Teams at the Bridge Center. Festive decorations, name tags and a traditional Kings Cake created a party mood through the talents of hostess Nancy Kehl for the 26 teams in the Open and the 13 in the 199er flights.

The Carnival Kings and Queens of bridge were the winners: A: Hamish Bennett-Diane Shannon-Don Nemiro-Frances Dickman; B: Richard Pavlicek Jr-Floyd McWilliams-Dinah McNutt-Nathaniel Thurston; C: Anthony Lee-Frank Lin-Kevin Rosenberg-Ryan Wessels. Honors for all three strata in the 199ers went to the team of Clare Thorpe-Ava

Norman-Julie Lee-Woon Lee. Thanks go to Nancy Kehl and the director Kevin O'Leary, to Sue Bockmann for baking and to the other helpers, John Mattis, Sue Griswold, John Schwartz, Lori Spaeth, Margot Livenspargar, Virginia Lyons, Paul Davis, Omer Barnir, and Fran Gaura.

As you may know, the fact that many teams didn't sign up beforehand made handling this game very difficult. Please note the article on this subject on p. 1.

Earlier in the month at the March 4 199er Swiss Teams, the foursome of Gillian Barsley-Paul Barsley-Roger Jackman-Annie Green bested six other teams.

STANFORD SPLASH

What is Splash? Splash is a two-day marathon of classes open to all students in grades 7-12. Students may choose from a wide variety of classes. Take short one-hour classes or longer workshops and labs. Stanford tries its hardest to keep you involved, excited and active throughout Splash. Join the movement! The next Splash will be April 13-14.

This is an exciting opportunity for 7th-12th graders to take an introductory 3-hour bridge class at Stanford, along with a host of other course options in a two-day learning extravaganza. Please tell all your eligible children, grandchildren and

friends about this program. The whole weekend of classes, up to 14 hours, costs only \$40.

To find out more and to register, go to:

<http://stanfordesp.org/learn/index.html>

Among the many unusual and fun classes in the catalog, you will find H2821: Learn to Play Bridge under "Hobbies."

Our own unit member, PABC bridge teacher and world champion Debbie Rosenberg, along with her 16-year old son, Kevin, will be assisting several Stanford students in teaching this class on Saturday April 13 at 2p.m.

LOOKING FOR MISSING LIBRARY BOOKS

We have a nice library of bridge books, pamphlets, etc., which people can borrow on the honor system by filling out a checkout form. Unfortunately, a recent audit shows that there are sixty books which have been taken without checking them out. If you have borrowed library material without checking it out, we ask that you return the item(s).

Our web site lists the missing books; the list being much too long to print here. It includes 10 by Marty Bergen, 4 by Charles Goren, 12 by Audrey Grant, 6 by Mike Lawrence and 1 to 3 books each by other authors. We hate to lose these books; please help, if you know where any of them are.

UNIT NEWS

Recognition - President Brian Samuels has named Michele Musy as chair. She will write articles highlighting the performance of Unit members in national, regional and sectional tournaments. Michele will also be responsible to organize a small recognition ceremony - with a cake and balloons - at one of our club games, to honor winners of national or international championships. Check out her first article on p.5.

Lecture - Don't be an April Fool! Come to expand your bridge horizons. The lecture on Tuesday, April 2 will feature Jim Leuker's "Topics in Declarer & Defender Play" and continue with Part II on April 16. On April 30, John Williams, with his talk on "Losing Trick Count," will explain this skill to judge the correct bidding level with and without competition.

Celebrity Series - The April 13 Helm's session "How to Play in No-Trump" features mentored play, while on April 20, it is a Helm's lecture with play.

We Have New Art! - Have you noticed the new, lovely display of paintings on our walls? The artist, Carolyn Hofstetter, is local, having majored in Art at Stanford. She considers herself a landscape painter, endeavoring to show the complex play of sunlight, shadows and atmospheric conditions in local scenes.

Library - *Surviving Duplicate Bridge* by Kathleen Vishner is a different kind of bridge book. Kathy puts a humorous spin on the learning of this complex game. As noted in an Amazon review, "This book will remind you of how intimidating the game can be for beginners, and how appreciated a smile or hello can be to any player." She also describes her move into retirement and learning bridge with her husband as her partner. Check out this book which is now in our Unit library.

Blue Book - It's not about your car's value; it's the newest edition of the Unit *Directory of Members &*

Friends. Pick up this best seller by Barbara Shukov, free to Unit members at your local club.

Bridge Quartet - The San Francisco Chamber Orchestra presents "A Night at the Opera" with a program of musical stories including Barber's brilliant Hand of Bridge—with libretto by composer Gian Carlo Menotti—a nine-minute production featuring two married couples playing a hand of bridge and singing about troubles that lie just beneath the surface. The free concert is at the First Palo Alto United Methodist Church Saturday evening April 27, sanfranciscochamberorchestra.org.



NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 4 at 4:00 p.m. at the
Bridge Center
All are invited to attend.

Palo Alto Unit 503 Board

Brian Samuels, President
Valerie Baldwin, Vice-President
Margot Livenspargar, Secretary
Todd Mackler, Treasurer
Steve Barasch, Sue Barkley, Sue
Griswold, Lee Haze, Bob Horowitz, Kevin
O'Leary, James Stuart-Smith.

KUDOS CORNER

by Michele Musy

Welcome to the first KUDOS CORNER column in the Kibitzer. Our new fearless leader, Brian Samuels, has asked me to acknowledge Unit 503 members who have shining moments at the bridge table. What a great idea!

Our Unit members did very well in Sacramento at the President’s Day Regional in February. Barbara Sonsini and her team placed first in the Lincoln -1 Knockouts. Geeske Joel’s team placed 2nd in two Bracket 1 KOs—the Jefferson and the Washington. Gary Macgregor was first in the Sunday IMP Pairs and also placed first in the Saturday AB Pairs. He had quite a tournament. Congratulations! Miriam Jacob was first in the Friday Gold Rush Pairs. In Saturday’s Adams Gold Pairs, Todd Makler and Bev Benson came in first. Trina Bowman and Margery Yates did well to place first in Saturday’s Senior Pairs. Larry Mohr played on a team that was first in Bracket 1 Roosevelt KOs. On Sunday, Bob Sanner and his partner placed first in the Fast Pairs. And finally, Vinita Gupta with her star-studded team finished first in the AX Swiss!

Unit 503 Members who placed in the Top 100 Sacramento players out of 1117, highest to lowest are: Larry Mohr, Geeske Joel, Barbara Sonsini, Gary Macgregor, Vinita Gupta and Hansa Narasimhan. Kudos! Listed in the second group of players (101-200) are Paul Cornelius, John Hoffman, Miriam Jacob, Jim O’Neil, Eusebio Menezes and Steve Hubbell. I apologize if I inadvertently left anyone out. Email me and I will correct the fauxpas’s.

I perused all of the Unit games in February, up through March 9, and there were many stars who had games 65% and above. Impressive! Even more amazing were three pairs who scored 70% or above: Pru Saunders & Trina Bowman (70.83), Polly Siegel & Ron Karr (70.71), and Reddy Raju & Dana Thatte (70.90). WOW!!

Lastly, I wish to make a plea for your help in the future. Please email me whenever you or one of your

buddies do something noteworthy, either at a club game or at a tournament. Examples would include: a super big game score, winning an event, earning heaps of master points or some other extraordinary happening. My eyes can’t be everywhere, so I’m deputizing you to be on Kudo-Patrol. My email is mmusy@apr.com, phone is (650)323-3033. I look forward to hearing from you often.

NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members: Mary Baumel, Anil Gera, Robert Joss, Ada Kriegman, Martha McLaughlin, Kay Sabin, Diana McGregor, Susan Perls, Donna Raynor and Debbie Rosenberg

PLAYER ADVANCEMENTS

The February ACBL report shows that the players identified below have moved up. Congratulations to all!

Junior Master	5 MP	Diane Holmquist, Michael Rosen, Jonathan Quitty
Club Master	20 MP	Fran Gaura, Sharon Humphreys, Deborah Machlin, Kathryn Papermaster, Rita Rubenfeld, Ginny Strock
Sectional Master	50 MP	Gertrude Duffie, Nancy Sabbag, Sandra Neuwelt-Truntze, Annette Rappleyea,
Regional Master	100 MP	David Cheng, Jim Hulseman, Samuel Lichtenstein, Sari Staver
NABC Master	200 MP	Miriam Jacob
Life Master	300 MP	Denise Pitsch

LET'S MAKE YOUTH BRIDGE BIG IN THE BAY AREA

BY DEBBIE ROSENBERG, MUKUND THAPA, ELINOR TANCK

The Unit held its Membership Meeting on Sunday, March 10 at the Bridge Center. Because the Unit had not received any written questions, President Brian Samuels answered one from the floor about a 199er section at the Tuesday Alpine BC game. He then announced that Debbie Rosenberg and Mukund Thapa had submitted an agenda for developing a Youth Training Program and that they would like to present their thoughts and goals on it. Brian encouraged the members to listen to their presentation because of the well-known benefits to having a program which would benefit youth and the Unit.

In order to motivate the discussion, Debbie displayed an internet photo of a very successful youth program in Israel where they had over 600 young people playing in one tournament. Debbie and Mukund indicated that the goal is to attract, teach, train and retain young players. They both spoke of their experiences with their own child playing bridge. Debbie submitted the following thoughts for the *Kibitzer*, some of which they presented at the meeting:

“Rather than starting small with one or two classes, Mukund and I believe we must think and act bigger. In order to retain the kids once they are introduced to bridge, we need a critical mass of players and teachers. The larger the group of kids that play, the easier it will be to attract other youth and keep them playing bridge.

“We’d like to start holding monthly pizza and bridge parties for the newcomers in our program, at the Bridge Center, almost immediately. In order for this to be an opportunity for our students to meet bridge-playing kids from other schools, we need other schools!

“Soon after, we envision interscholastic tournaments with prizes. To reach the goal of hun-

dreds of kids playing bridge in the Bay Area in a few years, we need momentum. It is my hope that neighboring units will see our success, and start programs of their own. This has been done in other countries and in Atlanta, USA. We believe the Bay Area can do as well or better.

“As a start, we plan to offer after-school programs this fall at as many local schools as we can manage. In order to make this a reality, we need volunteers. The love for bridge, as well as the abundant bridge skills which I have found in this community, has moved me to believe this vision can indeed become a reality.

“Players are encouraged to volunteer in any capacity they see fit. The Unit web site provides information and a sign-up for players to help with this program; we hope many will wish to commit some of their time. Please go to paloaltobridge.com/education/youthbridge/youthbridge.html.

“In addition to creating a thriving scholastic program, Mukund and I discovered that we had each independently come up with the idea of parent-child targeted bridge classes, and we are both eager to see this explored. I’ll be happy to share more about this and other ideas for promoting bridge, both to school-aged children and other younger demographics, in a future *Kibitzer* article.

“At the Bridge Center on Wednesday March 21, immediately after the duplicate (about 3 p.m.), there will be an open meeting for anyone interested in helping promote bridge. I hope to chat with many of you there.”

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
SUN	Sunday Afternoon BC	Open/Strat	1:00 p.m.	Coleman/Watson	Bridge Center

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Unit lecture, Tuesday, March 19 at 9:45 a.m., Bridge Center
- Sectional, Saturday, March 23 at Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa
- Club championship, Wed. March 27 at 7 p.m., Doubleton BC signup required.
- 199er Unit Swiss teams, Monday, April 1, at 6:30 p.m., Bridge Center
- Unit lecture, Tuesday, April 2 at 9:45 a.m., Bridge Center
- Sectional, Friday, April 5 at West Valley College, Saratoga
- Helm's Mentoring Play, Saturday, April 13 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- Unit lecture, Tuesday, April 16 at 9:45 a.m., Bridge Center
- Sectional, Wednesday, April 17, Boontown Hotel, Reno
- Helm's Lecture/Play, Saturday, April 20 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- Sectional, Saturday, April 20 at Centre Plaza, Modesto
- Unit Swiss Teams, Open and 199er, Sunday, April 21, lunch at noon, game at 1 p.m. Bridge Center. Reservation necessary.
- Sectional, Saturday, April 27 at Catholic HS, Kentfield
- Unit lecture, Tuesday, April 30 at 9:45 a.m., Bridge Center

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