



UNIT SETS BASTILLE DAY TEAMS, JULY 13

Parlez vous Français? Well, start practicing! The Unit will celebrate Bastille Day with a Swiss Teams Open and 199er Unit event on Sunday July 13 with lunch at noon and game at 1 p.m. Dare we call it French Teams? Snack on croissants, sandwiches and other goodies as you prepare to enjoy the friendly ambiance and exciting bridge. Please remember to sign up online or at the Bridge Center so that the chair Jim Harris and his committee can do the planning. For declarers, remember the word of the day is "merci" to your dummy partner.

KANTAR 'S COMING!

Eddie Kantar, author of many bridge books and a Grand Life Master, will be at the Bridge Center in person on Sunday, November 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to lecture on hands you will play with emphasis on defense. This seminar, for intermediate/advanced players, will cover defense tactics against the three types of dummies LSD (long suit, short suit, dead) in the morning. In the afternoon "Thinking Bridge" employs hands that Eddie uses to teach bidding, play and defense. Both include lecture and practice hands. The cost is \$80 per student or \$70 per student if registered and paid before October 1. For registration and information go to our Unit website, paloaltobridge.com. For additional information, contact Valerie Baldwin at unit503mentor@gmail.com.

COUNTDOWN TO THE FIRECRACKER JUNE 25-29

The Firecracker is ready to launch. Be ready to board for blast off with your partner and team to aim for great fun, bridge and a galaxy of masterpoints. From Wednesday, June 25 through Sunday, June 29, if you want to play bridge locally, you'll need to go to the Santa Clara Convention Center for our big event because most of the regular Unit games will be closed. The schedule, which was published in the last *Kibitzer*, is on our website, at the Bridge Center and in the Forum. Daily games include: pairs only on Wednesday, Knockouts and/or Compact Knockouts every day but Sunday, pairs games at any hour, a Saturday Youth Pairs, lots of 99er and 499er pairs games in addition to daily Swiss Team games. Yes, there's something for everybody! If you haven't attended before, you will

find that parking is convenient and free. For your pleasure, there is a no-host buffet available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, as well as restaurants nearby. And, **please don't forget to bring something for the Second Harvest Food Bank. Barrels will be set up to accept food or you may give a cash donation. Cash is especially welcome.**

James Stuart-Smith, the tournament chairman, and the sub-committee chairs have been hard at work ever since last year's event and hope to have first-rate player participation. As of this writing, James Stuart-Smith could still use a few more volunteers to help with the Set-Up/Take Down. If you are able to help out just before or immediately following the tournament, contact Paul Davis at plmdavis@pacbell.net.

UNITS HOLD NON-LIFE MASTER SECTIONAL

The Palo Alto and San Mateo Units jointly held their first Non-Life Master Sectional the weekend of May 14-15. Saturday was pairs day in Palo Alto with 499er and 99er flights held in the morning and afternoon. Sunday was teams day in San Mateo with a Knock-Out in the morning and Swiss Teams in the afternoon. On both days, there were pre-game lectures. The total table count was 71.5. Thanks go to the co-chairs Kevin O’Leary and Fred Chasalow, director Lynn Yokel and committee member Nancy Gordon. See the financial report at the right.

Income	Sat	Sun
Number of Tables	42	29.5
Player Fees	\$3,264	
Lunch	143	
Total Income	\$3,407	
Expenses		
ACBL fees	538	
Director Exp	198	
Rent	600	425
Lunch	143	338
Hand records	120	
Refreshments	40	184
Advertising,	90	
Expenses	\$1729	947
Total expense	\$2676	
Net Income	\$731	

Approx. 130 Unit members receive the Kibitzer in color electronically. Send your email to kelly.marian@gmail.com and she will add your name to our list.

PLAYER ADVANCEMENTS

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

Junior Master	5 MP	Anne Steiner, Marcy Tivol
Club Master	20 MP	Lynn Tollner
Sectional Master	50 MP	Tim Kado
Sectional Master	50 MP	Leila Mattinger
Silver Life Master	1000 MP	Belinda Gu
Gold Life Master	2500 MP	Alan Cummings,
Diamond Life Master	5000 MP	Geeske Joel

UNIT PAIRS GAME ON A SATURDAY

For the first time this year, the Unit held a Unit open and 199er pairs game on a Saturday, May 21 (rather than the usual Sunday) with 15 tables in the open and five in the 199er flight.

An unusual and welcomed feature was the use of many hands from Marty Bergen, including his commentary on the specific lesson(s) in each hand.

In the open, three partnerships tied for first in A: Kathy Harper and Jim O’Neil, Polly Siegel and Mindy Foos, Kevin Rosenberg and Gabrielle Sherman. The nod in C went to Garth and Margaret Wilson. In the 199ers, a youth partnership of SiVY players, Kevin Huang and Michael Hu, took first place honors. Thanks go to John Prior and Will Watson, who not only directed but cleaned up and to chair Jim Harris.

UNIT NEWS

Barometer Welcomes 499ers - The forecast is for a good turnout as Will Watson has announced the addition of a 499er section to his Friday Night Barometer game.

Bidding Boxes - Many players have expressed their admiration for the new look to the tables at the Bridge Center. After months of delay over installation issues, the players can thank Larry Read, Jody Williams' brother, for mounting the bidding boxes on the tables. This gives extra space for bridge pads, convention and playing cards.

Defibrillator - At the June meeting, the Board approved the purchase of a defibrillator and the necessary expense to train the game directors and teachers on its use. John Prior has agreed to manage the acquisition and the training.

Playing for Keeps—The dates quoted in last month's ad for Kathy Harper's class beginning in the fall were inaccurate. Her planned class dates are: Sept 11, Sept 18, Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Oct 30, Nov 13, Dec. 4, Jan 15, Jan 29, Feb. 5

BIG Games - Let's hope for more of these high scores in June. In May there was only one which met the standard; Merri Bands and Eugene Acton scored 73.3% in the Wed Aft. 99ers.

More NAP - The North American Pairs (NAP) continues during July at the local club level. A player may qualify many times and with many different partners. There will be at least four qualifying games in July: Thursday, July 3 at noon, Thursday Afternoon BC; Wednesday, July 9 at 11 a.m., Bridge 'n Brunch; Wednesday, July 16, at 7 p.m. Doubleton BC and Friday, July 18 at 7:30 p.m., Barometer BC. Remember to make a reservation for the Doubleton BC which is a very popular game. Watch the *Kibitzer* and the Unit website for other announcements of NAP games. The masterpoint strata are: A (unlimited), B (0-2500), C (0-500 Non-Life Masters).

Library - Barry Rigal plans to write a four-book series on card play. Our library already has the book *Breaking the Rules: First Hand Play*. Now the author, along with co-author Josh Donn, has published the second book, *More Breaking the Rules: Second Hand*

Play. The more one plays bridge, the more one realizes that the rules that govern the game don't always work. After reading this book, you'll realize that context determines whether or not you should follow the general principles that operate successfully more often than not. You'll find this book in our Unit Library.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I was reading the June Bridge Bulletin and on page 28 they list the top 50 clubs in 2013. The ranking seems to be based on the number of tables. I looked to see where our club was and was quite surprised to see that it didn't make the list at all. I was under the impression that we were an unusually large club, Are these rankings correct? I am asking because I'm curious how the numbers are obtained.

Nancy Kehl

The question was forwarded to Lori Spaeth, who responded as follows:

That's a very good question. My guess is the games held at the Bridge Center have many sanctions (different owners) and each sanction is counted separately. In actuality, the Bridge Center, California (?) is listed as #47 with 5900.5 games - probably the Monday game at the Bridge Center and the Thursday game at the JCC (both under the same sanction number). Other units' games are under one umbrella; thus they get to count all their tables.

If we combined all of the games held just at the Bridge Center in 2013, we would have been 14th in the country with 9,086.5. It does beg the question...could the ACBL count the Bridge Center as one place for bridge so that people around the globe would know how big we are? Perhaps someone should follow up with them to see if it's possible. (Editor's Note: President Brian Samuels did follow up with the ACBL and confirmed that table counts are indeed decided by sanction. Oh well ;-))

BYLAWS UPDATE BY JODY WILLIAMS

The Board of Directors initiated a project in 2013 to revise the Unit's bylaws. The Board has approved these changes and recommends that the members approve them as well. The membership must now ratify them before they are adopted. The proposal and the rationale for the changes can be found at <http://www.paloaltobridge.com/unit/governance/2014bylawsrevision/bylawsrevision.html>

A paper copy is available in the library at the Bridge Center. The Board of Directors realizes that this is a lengthy document and thanks you for tak-

ing the time to read through the proposed changes. This ballot is for your formal vote on whether or not you concur with the proposed Bylaws changes.

Voting will begin on July 1 and close on July 11. Ballots, envelopes and boxes will be at three locations: the Bridge Center, the Unity Church and the JCC. All ballots must be received by July 16. The election chair, Roy Robinson, will announce the election results via the *Kibitzer*.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss any of the document, Jody would like to hear from you. Contact her at jody@hamilton.com.

BALLOT

Instructions for Voting

- Check the "Yes" or "No" box below.
- Print your name on the envelope or use an address label. Make sure it's legible.
- Put this ballot in the envelope, seal it, and drop it into the box.

If you need to vote by mail, address the envelope to: Roy Robinson, 539 Los Ninos Way, Los Altos CA 94022-1728. Make sure your name is on the envelope and that it's legible.

Indicate your vote by marking the corresponding box:

Yes. I approve the Bylaws Update.

No. I do not approve the Bylaws Update.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, July 10

3:45 p.m. Bridge Center

All are welcome to attend.

Palo Alto Unit 503 Board

Brian Samuels, President

James Stuart-Smith, Vice President

Todd Makler, Treasurer

Leslie Altick, Secretary

Valerie Baldwin, James Harris, Bob Horowitz,

Kevin O'Leary, Jody Williams

NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members: Craig Allen, Vivian Pezzani and Audrey Mitchell



BIG SUCCESS FOR LEARN BRIDGE IN A DAY

BY CAROLYN CHANEY

At 9:15 a.m. on Saturday, June 14, our Bridge Center was mobbed with eager people waiting to check in for Learn Bridge in a Day (LBIAD). By 9:30, most were seated and ready for five hours of learning our game. The B.C. was filled to capacity with approximately 154 students and 40 mentors. Eleven of the participants were youth. The youngest player, Alex, age 10, came to help his newbie mom learn the game.

Just look at the terrific Roy Robinson photo above. We've seen full houses before, but usually the faces are a bit more familiar. How gratifying it was to see this wonderful response to our promotional efforts.

Thanks to a grant from the ACBL Educational Foundation, Patty Tucker, author of LBIAD, flew in from Atlanta, GA to teach the seminar. She started from the very beginning: how to deal the cards, major and minor suits, winning tricks, declarer and dummy, trumps and notrump. By the first "snack break," participants were counting points in their hands and learning how to bid. By the end of the day, everyone had learned enough to play a few pre-dealt hands and then some shuffled and dealt hands. The enthusiasm in the room was contagious, and Patty, an entertaining teacher. On final, written evaluations, participants were lavish in their praise for Patty, the class, and especially the table mentors who

patiently explained and helped them with their bids and play. Patty remarked that our Unit's LBIAC was the second largest she has ever taught. We'd like to invite Patty Tucker back for a second Learn Bridge in a Day. Our ACBL grant paid for one trip only. If you have airline miles you could donate, please talk to Carolyn Chaney.

We certainly hope that we will see many of these new players back again at our bridge center, enrolled in our classes, playing in our easy game, participating in our SiVY bridge programs, and perhaps trying the 0-5 game at the Firecracker.

Special thanks go to Carolyn Chaney (Chief Organizer & Head Cook & Bottle Washer), Valerie Baldwin (Mentor Organizer), Alan Templeton (Webmaster and talented Equipment Manager), Debbie Rosenberg (Rabblouser for Youth), Sue Griswold & Kathy Harper (Hosts to Patty). We could not have done this without the many dedicated members of Unit 503 who served as mentors, trotted flyers around to libraries and community centers and side games, and who told their friends and family to come. THANK YOU EVERYONE!

Are we exhausted? Yes. Shall we do it again? Why not?

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 INFO
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
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
	EZ Bridge	<99 MP	11:30 a.m.	Saunders	Bridge Center.
WED.	Bridge 'n Brunch	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	Will Watson	Bridge Center
	Wed Aft. 99er	<100 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
	Friday Night Barometer	<500 MP	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

- *Club champ., Thursday; June 19 at noon, Thursday Afternoon BC
- *Club champ., Friday, June 20 at 7:30 p.m., Barometer BC
- *Bergen Mentoring Play, Saturday, June 21 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- *Unit open/199er pairs, Saturday, June 21, lunch at noon, game at 12:30 p.m., Bridge Center
- *Unit Open/199er Swiss Teams, Sunday, June 22, lunch at noon, game at 1 p.m., Bridge Center

PALO ALTO FIRECRACKER SECTIONAL

Wednesday, June 25-Sunday, June 29, Convention Center, Santa Clara

No club games Wed., June 25 through Sunday, June 29 except Wednesday Unity Church game.

- *NAP qual. game, Thursday, July 3 at noon, Thursday Afternoon BC
- *NAP qual. game, Wednesday, July 9 at 11 a.m., Bridge 'n Brunch
- *Sectional, Saturday, July 12 at Vintage House Sr. Ctr., Sonoma
- *Unit Open/199er Swiss Teams, Sunday, July 13, lunch at noon, game 1 p.m., Bridge Center
- *NAP Qual. game, Wednesday, July 16 at 7 p.m., Doubleton Club (Resv. Req.)
- *NAP qual. game, Friday, July 18 at 7:30 p.m., Barometer BC
- *Sectional, Friday, July 19 at Transfiguration Church, Castro Valley

Club Contacts

Gabriella Bowling (650) 941-8398
 Claire Coleman (650) 368-5917
 Marolyn Yancey (408) 532-6437
 Walter Miller (510) 839-5929
 Kevin O'Leary (650) 279-0005
 John Prior (408) 745-0380
 Prue Saunders (650) 464-3969
 John Schwartz (650) 324-2424
 Lori Spaeth (650) 906-3987
 Will Watson (408) 614-8881
 John Williams (650) 254-1041

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

