



UNIT SWISS SET FOR SUN., MAY 4

UNIT PAIRS, SAT., MAY 24

Here's a chance to practice your bridge skills in preparation for STAC week by playing in the Unit Swiss Open/199er Team Game on Sunday, May 4, at 1 p.m. Arrive at 12:15 to enjoy a lunch of sandwiches, healthy veggies and indulge in dessert.

At this time, Jody Williams will conduct a question and answer session about the bylaw revisions and the new policy document, so come ready with your inquiries. Please sign up on the Unit Website (preferred)

or the sheet in the Center lobby so the chair, James Harris, can make sure there is plenty of food and to help the director, Will Watson, with the team seeding.

Once a month is not enough for Unit happenings! Pair up for the Open/199er Unit Pairs Game on Saturday, May 24 with refreshments at 11:30 a.m. and game time at noon.

BYLAWS UPDATE BY JODY WILLIAMS

The Board of Directors initiated a project in 2013 to revise the Unit's bylaws. The Board has approved the revisions which the membership must now ratify before they are adopted. The revisions fall into three categories: finance and accounting, open government, and cleanup.

Motivation for the Changes

Finance and Accounting

The most substantial change is the requirement that the Unit operate on a budget. In years when the Board did not use a budget, disagreements arose about the way money was allocated and the process for approving new spending. The budget resolves most of these situations because interested parties have the opportunity to participate in the creation of the budget. The process for handling requests that break the budget was also added to the bylaws. In years when the Board has not used a budget, spending decisions were made on a case by case basis as the need for funds arose.

Open Government

Changes to the bylaws with respect to open gov-

ernment are to clearly state the requirements for agendas and forums. For example, the bylaws have not been updated since electronic communication has become prevalent. The changes are designed to ensure that Unit business is conducted in an open forum where Unit members have the opportunity to participate in forming the plans and actions of the organization.

Cleanup

Cleanup changes should be largely self-explanatory. In some cases words were missing, there were typos, information appeared in multiple sections of the bylaws where it should have been consolidated, etc.

More Information

Please look at the web site for more detailed information before the Q and A session being held on Sunday, May 4 at 12:15 p.m. before the Unit Game. The Board will hold more sessions, as needed, to give everyone the opportunity to provide input on the changes. The date for the membership vote depends on the number of question and answer sessions. The membership vote will be by ballot. The bylaws update will be approved if 2/3rds of the votes are in favor.

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

UNIT HONORS JEAN FLOCKS AT MARCH UNIT SWISS

The Jean Flocks Memorial Swiss Teams held on Sunday, March 23 had 19 teams in the open flight with eight in the 199er. The top teams in the open were: A, Janice Nakao-Thomas Quinlan-Richard Williams-Jody Williams; B, Brian Samuels-Jan Samuels-Robert Horowitz-Richard DeVaul; C, Larry Lasher-Andrew Dentai-Reddy Raju-Devesh Goyal. The winners in the 199ers were: A, Marleen Zwier-Kathryn Hensens-Carol-Ann Ackerman-Roy Ackerman; B, Nick Ward-Anne Ward-Ann Trueheart-Gerry Gassman.

Before the event, President Brian Samuels acknowledged the bequest made by Jean to the Unit and named "Table 3" in her honor with a plaque mounted on her favorite playing location.

To remind the players of Jean's choice snack, Virginia Lyons, Marleen Zwiers, Nancy Kehl and Elinor Tanck provided home-made cookies. Thanks go to Director Will Watson, Unit Game Chair James Harris and the cookie donors.

Also, Brian Samuels opened the Membership Meeting to answer members' questions. There were none, so he quickly adjourned the meeting.

The Unit held two 499er Unit Swiss team events. On March 24, there were two teams with Jim Hulseman-Carl Baeuerlen-Wendy Benveniste-Barbara Hansen the winners. On April 7, there were again two teams but this time the winners were Ron and Joelle Perkocha-Judy and Warren Goodnow.

UNITS 503 AND 498 JOIN TO PRESENT SECTIONAL FOR NON-LIFE MASTERS

The San Mateo and Palo Alto Units have linked up to offer a Sectional for non-life masters on Saturday, May 17 at the Palo Alto Bridge Center and on Sunday, May 18 at the Burlingame Bridge Club. All events award silver points. Please make reservations for one day or both on the Unit 503 website, www.paloaltobridge.com. The tournament starts Saturday at 9:15 a.m. with a "Signaling" lesson by Fred Chasalow followed by Stratified Pairs at 10 a.m. Players will break for lunch at 1:30 p.m. and continue with a second session of Stratified Pairs at 2:30 p.m. The Saturday fees per session are \$11 for ACBL members (others \$14). A light lunch will be available for \$5.

The Sunday program includes a "Team Strategy" lesson by Kevin O'Leary at 9:15 a.m. followed by Compact Bracketed Teams at 10 a.m. Lunch is served at 1:30 p.m. and the tournament concludes with Swiss Teams at 2:30 p.m. The Sunday fees are \$25 for ACBL members and \$30 for others, covering both sessions and including a light lunch. New single session entries to Swiss Team will be accepted at game time.

Lynn Yokel is the head director. The Saturday co-chair, Kevin O'Leary, olearybridge@gmail.com, (650) 279-0005, will arrange Saturday partnerships; the Sunday co-chair, Fred Chasalow, (650) 508-1572, fredatpl@aol.com) will help with Sunday partnerships. Need more information? See the flyer on page 5.

IT'S TIME TO STACK UP THE SILVER

Looking for the silver? To collect your silver points, come to your local club for the STAC (Sectional Tournament at Clubs). The STAC is a sectional tournament played simultaneously in local clubs throughout the Western Conference. This treasure hunt happens Monday, May 5 through Sunday, May 11. All the clubs listed in

the directory on the back page will participate in this event. Shine up your bridge skills to get your share of extra masterpoint awards and stockpile sterling silver points. The competition is terrific, the masterpoint awards are high and a wealth of silver points await the winners.

UNIT NEWS

Monday Nite Swiss - The Unit is cancelling the Monday 499er Unit Swiss Teams. Because the ACBL restricts the number of Unit games, the Board wishes to replace it with others which would appeal to all players.

BIG games - The competition is getting tougher. This month only two pairs achieved the big-game standard: Donald Levy-Mary Savoie-73% at Wed. Aft 99er and Dawn Black-Alice Redfield-73.9% at ViDBC.

Learn Bridge In A Day - Do you have a friend or family member who doesn't know how to play bridge - but who wishes they could enjoy it as you do? Here is a marvelous opportunity to introduce them to the game you love to play. A seminar *Learn Bridge in a Day* will be held Saturday, June 14 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the IFES Hall next to our Bridge Center. Thanks to a grant from the ACBL, Patty Tucker, the author of *LBIAD*, is flying in to teach the course. Cost is \$25 per student which includes instruction, student handbook, and light snacks. Bring a friend and save \$5 each. For more info or to register, go to our website at PaloAltoBridge.com

Library - This month features a book for newcomers. Mary Ann Dufresne has written *Playing a Bridge Hand*. It is not just important to bid correctly, but to get good results you have to strengthen your declarer play. Some points covered are: how to count your winning and losing tricks; master three basic techniques for eliminating losers; manage your entries; set priorities; plan the play. There are plenty of practice deals in this simple guide to better declarer play. At the end of each chapter are quizzes to test your new-found skills. With a little practice, you'll soon be getting the results you deserve!

Lectures - The Unit has updated the Tuesday Unit lecture series schedule. Lynn Yokel will give the players a peek into bridge hands in her presentation of "Six Boards" on April 22. On May 13, Frank Smoot will make sure players don't take a wrong turn but learn the right way to use "Two-way Drury." On May 27, Sue Johnson will tell the players about garbage in "Art of the Discard."

Celebrity Bridge - The Bergen series has its mentored follow-up on "Squeezes and Endplays" on Sat-

urday, April, 19. The May 3 lecture will give instruction on "Creating More Trump Tricks" with mentoring follow-up on May 10. On May 24, the mentees will learn about "How to Play a Part Score."

Ace-Mini - The Unit has posted the 2014 Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenny race standings as of March 31 at the Bridge Center.

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 April ACBL report shows that the players identified below have moved up.

Congratulations to all!

Junior Master	5 MP	Francis Cano, Anna Reuter, Christopher Kolner, Samuel Huneke, Hansup Kwon, Carolyn Lougee,
Club Master	20 MP	Diane Feldman, Beth Lyon, Evan Porteus
Sectional Master	50 MP	Merri Banks, Leila Mattinger
Regional Master	100 MP	Donald Cohn
Silver Life Master	1000 MP	Cres Cole, Marian Kelly

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, May 8

3:45 p.m. Bridge Center

All are welcome to attend.

PALO ALTO UNIT FIRECRACKER JUNE 25-29 – SUPER SECTIONAL OFFERS

MORE THAN 1000 SILVER POINTS

Come to the Santa Clara Convention Center again this year to have fun while playing good competitive bridge and earning silver points. A new format gives added appeal to experienced, intermediate and newcomer players and re-invigorates this classic which is an excellent tournament at which to gain experience and to practice for Regionals. To assure fun for everyone, we are endorsing the ACBL *Play Nice* policy, and the directors will ensure compliance. Session fees are \$11 for ACBL members and \$14 for others. Car parking is **FREE**. A limited number of concessionary rate rooms are available at the adjoining Hyatt Regency Hotel at \$129 per night. Reserve early to insure this rate. Go to <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/PABridge14> to book.

Game Schedule Highlights

- Wednesday: **Exclusively Pairs Day**. No team games.
- Earlier start, 6:30 p.m. for evening games on Wednesday and Thursday.
- Three days of two session, Open and 499er NLM Pairs. Single session pairs welcome.
- Two four-session KO games start Thursday and Friday.
- Single session Swiss Teams on three days.
- Compact KO game on Saturday.
- Saturday: **Youth Day** with two 0 to 5 MP Pairs games in conjunction with SiVY (Silicon Valley Youth) Bridge. Youths play free in this event, but all ages welcome to play.

- Sunday: **Swiss Day** with two-session Swiss Teams and single-session Pair games.

Tournament chair, James Stuart-Smith, emphasizes that for this Unit 503 event we rely on volunteers to share the work. Please do your part by contacting Carolyn Chaney to help with the Partnership desk, Sioux Atkinson for Hospitality and Josephine Ventura for Caddie assistants. We particularly need volunteers and a set-up co-chair to help Grant Spaeth with the set-ups at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 25 and Thursday, June 26 and take-down on Sunday, June 29 at about 4:30 p.m. after play finishes. For more details see the Firecracker page on our website or take a flyer from the Bridge Center lobby.

- Keep our Super Sectional sizzling. Renew acquaintances and make new friends.
- Come once, twice and more to test your bridge skills against different players.
- Earn silver points to reach your next master point rank.) .

SYMPATHY

Unit officers and members extend their sincere condolences to the family and friends of long-time player and purveyor of good humor, Herman Sung, especially to his wife, Lillian, who passed away April 10 after a bout with cancer.

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: Marian Cox, Karina Lipe, Hai Zhu, Peter Barba, Sherry Barba, Mona Foley, Susan Graf, Linzhi Hu, Michael Hu, Anne Keyser, Brahm Levin, Deborah Levin and Qing Lu.

Joint Unit 503 & 498

Non-Life Master Sectional

Sanction SN 1405151

May 17, 2014*At the Palo Alto Bridge Center*

432 Stierlin Road

Mountain View, CA 94043

650-940- 1824

May 18, 2014*At the Burlingame Bridge Club*

1300 Bayshore, Suite 168

Burlingame, CA 94010

650-344-4919

Saturday, May 17, 2014		Sunday, May 18, 2014	
9:15 AM	Lesson - Signaling	9:15 AM	Lesson – Team Strategy
10:00 AM	Stratified pairs	10:00 AM	Compact Bracketed Teams
1:30 PM	Lunch hour	1:30 PM	Lunch hour
2:30 PM	Stratified Pairs	2:30 PM	Swiss teams

Hand records will be available during the lunch hour & after the second session each day.

Pair games will be flighted 0/20/100/NLM and stratified within each flight. Stratifications for pairs and teams will be determined by average MPs. At game time, the director will determine bracket and stratification based on actual attendance.

Director

Lynn Yokel

Co- Chair for Saturday

Kevin O'Leary: 650-579-0005, (oleary.205@gmail.com)

Co-Chair for Sunday

Fred Chasalow: 650-508-1572, (fredatipl@aol.com)

Please note: No events Saturday in Burlingame and No events Sunday in Mountain View

All events award Silver points

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY WILL BE ENFORCED

Saturday entry fees per session: ACBL Members: \$11; others \$14

Light lunch will be available for \$5; Soft drinks and bottled water \$1

Saturday Partnerships: Email or call Kevin O'Leary

Sunday entry fees for both sessions: ACBL Members \$25; others \$30

Light lunch included: Slice of hero, chips, fruit; Soft drinks and bottled water \$1

Entry to compact knockout includes Swiss teams for losers

New single session entries to Swiss teams accepted at game time

Sunday Partnerships: Email or call Fred Chasalow

Please make reservations on Unit 503 web

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
	Pass Out	Open/Strat.	7:00 p.m.	John Prior	Bridge Center No game on first Tuesday.
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
SAT	One Club	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	John Prior	Bridge Center

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Bergen Mentoring Play, Sat. April 19 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- Unit lecture, Tuesday, April 22 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- Sectional, Saturday, April 26 at Redwood HS, Larkspur
- Sectional, Friday, May 2 at Community Center, Orangedale
- Bergen Lecture, , Saturday, May 3 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- Unit Open/199er Swiss Teams, Sunday, May 4, Lunch 12:15, game at 1 p.m., Bridge Center
- Great Western STAC, Monday, May 5-Sunday, May 11 – all clubs
- Bergen Mentoring Play,, Saturday, May 10 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- Unit lecture, Tuesday, May 13 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- Sectional, Friday, May 16, Bridge Center, Marin

UNIT NLM SECTIONAL

Saturday, May 17 at 10 a.m. Palo Alto Bridge Center

Sunday, May 18 at 10 a.m. Burlingame Bridge Club

- I/N Sectional, Saturday, May 17, Aspen Lodge, Reno
- Bergen Lecture, Saturday, May 24 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- Unit Pairs, Saturday, May 24. Munchies at 11:30, game at noon, Bridge Center
- Regional, Monday, May 26 at Double Tree Hotel, Sacramento
- Unit lecture, Tuesday, May 27 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center

Club Contacts

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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

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