



## TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL (UNIT) GAME, SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Let's celebrate the opening of the baseball season on Sunday, April 13. It won't be the Giants at AT&T Park nor the A's at the Oakland Coliseum, but the April Unit Game, Open/199er Swiss Teams at the Bridge Center with lunch at noon and game at 1 p.m. Get your hot dogs here, also nachos, potato salad, lemonade and best of all, home made cookies and brownies. (Sorry, no beer.)

Guarantee your team a ticket and a box seat by signing up on the Unit web site or on the list at the Bridge Center. (Should you arrive without such a ticket, you could be turned away.) Cheer on the

local teams by wearing your smile with orange and black or yellow and green, the Giant and A's team colors. Umpire Will Watson will call balls and strikes and fouls and safes and outs at all the bases (we hope he won't need a mask and a chest protector) and Nancy Kehl will head the refreshment stand. For this all-star game, each team will need \$40 to get through the turnstiles.

Non-Life masters can brush up on their team strategy at the Monday Night 499er Swiss Teams on Monday, April 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bridge Center. There is an optional sign-up on the Unit web site.

## BOARD SETS NEW GOALS

During its past few meetings, the Board has spent several hours considering and discussing ways to improve the Unit. At the March meeting, it selected the four listed below as deserving serious effort. Your Board invites Unit members to join in helping it work on them.

1. Increase member involvement in our Unit with President Brian heading the committee ([briansamuels@yahoo.com](mailto:briansamuels@yahoo.com)). Continue to improve communication to and from members, conduct member surveys to help set direction and priorities, manage volunteers more effectively, develop a new system to improve the process for volunteering and for more members getting involved.

2. Investigate "expansion" options to allow ad-

ditional tables at our Bridge Center, Kevin O'Leary in charge ([oleary.205@gmail.com](mailto:oleary.205@gmail.com)). Ideas include occasional rental of IFES hall, remodel options and how to handle any additional parking required.

3. Increase weekend attendance. Jody Williams ([jody@hamilton.com](mailto:jody@hamilton.com)), what to do about low attendance games, i.e. Sat., Sun. and Mon. evening Swiss.

4. Online bridge – get our Unit started in online bridge. Jim Harris ([jmharris2@yahoo.com](mailto:jmharris2@yahoo.com)), and the Board see a significant strategic issue that in the future online may become really big and negatively impact attendance.

Find the *Kibitzer* on the Unit website, [www.paloaltobridge.com](http://www.paloaltobridge.com)

## UNIT SWISS SALUTES THE OLYMPICS

The atmosphere was warm and cozy, but it did not melt the enthusiasm generated by the Winter Olympic Game décor at the Sunday, February 16 Unit Swiss Teams. With 22 teams in the open and 20 in the 199ers, the game was the largest Unit game with the exception of the 51 table-Grand Opening game at the Bridge Center on Sunday, April 29, 2012.

Gold medals went to the winners of the A, B and C strata in the open flight. With four wins and 57 points, the team of Polly Siegel-Michael Fleisher-Melinda Foos-David Neuman captured the A title, Brian and Jan Samuels-Margaret and Garth Wilson won in B and Yu Chang-Winston Huang-Erli Zhou-Tao Fan were first in C. Honors in the 199ers went to Donna Raynor-Deborah Lundahl-Deborah Machlin-Ginny Strock in A/B and to Russell Chou-Jeffrey Chen-Ling-Ling Zhang -Edward Yang in C. The free-play winners were Peggy Wheeler, Lori Spaeth and Dean Wangsvick.

Not only did the Unit give out gold medals, it also presented awards to several worthy Unit members. Jim Harris, Unit Game Chair, announced that Don Rothschild and Tahir Gokcen

had won the 2013 Winners Plaque and presented it to Don Rothschild. (Tahir was not at the game). He also awarded the Non-Life Masters Winners Plaque to Richard Recht. And finally, to great applause, Unit President Brian Samuels gave a special plaque to Will Watson in appreciation of all his services to the Unit.



Of course, the Unit owes the event's success to the directors, Will Watson and Kevin O'Leary, and to Nancy Kehl, the hostess with the mostest, who set the tone for the party ambiance.

More kudos go to the chili chef, Lynn Guisti, cookie bakers - Akiko Murakami, Kathie Fisher, Clare Thorpe, muffin makers -Sue Griffin, Mary Savoie and for the French bread to Ann Ward. Nancy's crew included Virginia Lyons, Paul Davis for set up, Sue and Ralph Griffin, Fran Guara, Kathy Johnson, and Jim Harris.

## PLAY BRIDGE UNDER THE STARS

To better serve the night-time bridge players, John Prior will begin his new game, the Passed Out BC, on Tuesday, April 8 at the Bridge Center. He will give a free play to any pair that gets an untied top on a board that is passed out, provided the board has been played at least four times. He intends to serve a variety of salads and desserts at the game. The table fee will be \$9. Start promptly at 7 p.m.; end by 10 p.m.

His game will be open every Tuesday with the exception of the first Tuesday of each month because attendees at the Conservative Forum which meets on the first Tuesday take all the parking places.

## UNIT 503/498 NON-LIFE MASTERS

### SECTIONAL, MAY 17-18

The Palo Alto and San Mateo Units have announced a NLM Sectional on Saturday, May 17 at the Palo Alto Bridge Center and on Sunday, May 18 at the Burlingame Bridge Club. The Saturday schedule includes a pre-game lesson and two sessions of Stratified Pairs, while the Sunday one consists of a pre-game lesson, Compact Bracketed Teams and Swiss Teams. The May *Kibitzer* will include a flyer with a detailed schedule and further information. Lynn Yokel is the director and the co-chairs are Kevin O'Leary and Fred Chasalow.

## UNIT NEWS

**BIG Games**— In February, these partnerships earned gold stars: Christy Hartsell-Fred Tierney-73.5% at Monday Morning BC, David Chan-Chee Tung-74.6% at Thursday Morning BC and Beverly Ginsberg-Phoebe Korn - a BIG, BIG 80.6% at ViDBC.

**Lecture**— On March 25, Frank Smoot will help the players keep on their toes while doing the “Balancing” act. The fans scream “defense” at a basketball game and Joanna Stansby will show the players about “Expert Defense” at the bridge table on April 8 and Sue Johnston will explain that it’s not about trash when she speaks on “The Art of the Discard” on April 22.

**Celebrity Series**— Marty Bergen will lecture online on “Creating Trump Tricks for the Defense” on April 19, the first of this new series.

**Heard at the Table**— Opening lead of a King is alerted. At my turn, I ask for an explanation, which is: "If the lead of the King is from AK, I give attitude." I then reply, "I don't understand how you know whether or not partner's lead is from AK." Answer: "You don't have to." (Name withheld to protect the guilty.)

**Help**— The Unit is still searching for volunteers to chair the Membership and Trophy committees. Interested? Contact Brian, [briansamuels@yahoo.com](mailto:briansamuels@yahoo.com).

**Director...y**— Players will be green with envy as they admire Barbara Shukov’s award-winning best seller. Pick up the new and improved *Palo Alto Unit Directory of Members and Friends* green book, soon to be released at the game locations.

**Special Delivery**— Get on the list! Yes, the *Kibitzer* email list to receive your newsletter is in living color. Just send an email to Marian, [kelly.marian@gmail.com](mailto:kelly.marian@gmail.com).

**Library** - David Bird has recently published *Famous Bridge Disasters* – this is a part of the Master Bridge Series. You will find this to be a very entertaining book as David Bird describes the most spectacular and amusing disasters suffered by the world's top players. As you study these hands, you will learn from them and enjoy them. One thing that makes this book fun is that you will be directly involved in the action at various stages and invited to make your own choice of bid, lead or play. Check out this book from our Unit Library. Please contact Fran Bennett or Valerie Baldwin with any suggestions of books that you would like to see in our library.



## PLAYER ADVANCEMENTS

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

Junior Master	5 MP	Heemook Kwon, Richard Lareau, Marie Straube
Club Master	20 MP	Judy Anderson, Anne Battle, Joanie Dinsmore, George Hopkins, Mary Hopkins, Susan Perls, Joan Smith
Sectional Master	50 MP	William Dalton
Regional Master	100 MP	Jennifer Ewald, Nancy Kehl, Lothar Klatt, Nancy Layendecker, Kathryn Papermaster, Rita Rubenfeld, Donald Vance, John Verhagen
NABC Master	200 MP	Wendy Benveniste, David Cheng, Dana Martin-Newman
Life Master	300 MP	Ellie Bernhardt, Dan Thatte
Bronze Life Master	500 MP	Lynn Giusti

## YOUTH BRIDGE UPDATE – UPCOMING EVENTS AND SUMMER BRIDGE CAMP

It's been a very exciting first year for Silicon Valley Youth (SiVY) Bridge. We've named the organization, created a logo and website, held eight pizza parties, one mini-bridge tournament, and three parent-child duplicates. More than 30 new teachers were trained at our Teacher Accreditation Program and we have been holding after school classes at ten locations. All of this can happen only because of the dedication of our volunteers, teachers, and donors, many from Unit 503.

Key to inspiring young bridge players is providing a variety of learning opportunities. Much of the kids' enjoyment comes from meeting kids from different cities, schools, and grades. The SiVY Bridge monthly events provide a fun way for program participants to get together outside their normal classes.

In 2014 the fun continues with 3 Pizza Party Play Bridge events, free of charge, open to all skill levels:

- Saturday, April 5, 2014, 1:45 to 4:30 p.m., West Valley College, Saratoga
- Wednesday, April 30, 2014, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., Gardner Boys and Girls Club – 520 West Virginia Street, San Jose
- Friday May 23, 2014, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., Bridge Center, Mountain View

Additionally SiVY Bridge is proud to be offering the first ever Bay Area Bridge Camp June 16 to 20 at the IFES Hall next door to the Bridge Center in Mountain View. If there is a 10 to 17 year old in your life who has shown an interest in learning the game that you love, this is a great opportunity for them to get started. The camp is open to all, regardless of previous experience. At the end of their one week of camp, the students will be skilled enough to participate in the first ever Youth Day at the Firecracker Sectional on Saturday June 28. That day all 0-5 point players ages 25 and under play FREE.

Everyone on the SiVY email list will receive invitations and information about all the events – as well as our new e-mail newsletter, published ythree times per year. But to see photos and read stories, be sure to regularly check the SiVY web site, [siliconvalleyyouthbridge.org](http://siliconvalleyyouthbridge.org), or “Like” us on Facebook ([facebook.com/SiliconValleyYouthBridge](https://facebook.com/SiliconValleyYouthBridge)).

### NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 3  
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: Carolyn Armstrong, Linda Elman, David Hirsch, Joan Ulibarri, James Ducey and Sheldon Keyser.

### SYMPATHY

Unit officers and members extend their sincere condolences to the family and friends of Adrienne Oliff whose husband, Jay, recently passed away. We apologize for not acknowledging the passing of Unit member Sam Morley; Unit members and officers offer their sympathy to his family and friends.

## WHEN SHOULD YOU OPEN/NOT OPEN ONE NO TRUMP?

The March issue of the *Kibitzer* listed 30 hands from recent games and asked that you write down your opening bid for each of them because we would publish Marty Bergen's choices for opening those hands in April. So below you find Marty's suggestions for opening each hand along with guidelines he uses for opening 1 NT. You may wish to review the specific hands while you check answers. Space constraints don't allow us to reprint the hands here, but you can find them in the paper copy of the March *Kibitzer* or on the web site, paloaltobridge.com. Look under "Unit", then under "Kibitzer Newsletter".

- |     |      |     |      |     |      |
|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|
| 1.  | 1 NT | 11. | 1 NT | 21. | 1 NT |
| 2.  | 1 C  | 12. | 1 C  | 22. | 1 NT |
| 3.  | 1 NT | 13. | 1 H  | 23. | 1 C  |
| 4.  | 1 S  | 14. | 1 NT | 24. | 1 NT |
| 5.  | 1 H  | 15. | 1 C  | 25. | 1 NT |
| 6.  | 1 NT | 16. | 1 S  | 26. | 1 D  |
| 7.  | 1 NT | 17. | 1 C  | 27. | 1 NT |
| 8.  | 1 C  | 18. | 1 NT | 28. | 1 H  |
| 9.  | 1 NT | 19. | 1 H  | 29. | 1 NT |
| 10. | 1 NT | 20. | 1 NT | 30. | 1 NT |

### Marty's 1NT Bidding Guidelines

1NT range is 14+ to 18-  
 Always open 1NT with a 5-card major and a balanced hand, i.e. 5-3-3-2  
 A five-card suit is a one point asset; many hands with 14 points and a five-card suit are worth a 1NT opener.  
 Some balanced hands with 15 HCP are not worth 1NT.  
 Questions – [alan.cummings@stanford.edu](mailto:alan.cummings@stanford.edu) (650) 619-6664



Hostess Nancy Kehl stands above next to her little mountain of skiers which she constructed for our Olympic celebration, displayed on our entry table.

Here are two photos from our recent, highly successful February Unit game. Below you can get an idea of the wonderful turnout!



*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 Starts April 8
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

- ◆ Sectional, Saturday, March 22 at Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa
- ◆ Celebrity Series Bergen lecture, Sat. March 22 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Membership meeting, Sunday, March 23 at 12:30 p.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Jean Flocks Memorial Open/199er Swiss teams, Sun., Mar. 23, at 1 p.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ 499er Unit Swiss teams, Monday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Unit lecture, Tuesday, March 25 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Celeb. Series mentored play, Sat., Mar. 29 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Sectional, Saturday, March 29 at San Ramon Valley HS, Danville
- ◆ Sectional, Friday, April 4 at West Valley College, Saratoga
- ◆ 499er Unit Swiss teams, Monday, April 7, at 6:30 p.m. Bridge Center
- ◆ Unit lecture, Tuesday, April 8 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ New Tuesday Evening Game starts Tuesday, April 8 at 7:00, Bridge Center
- ◆ Sectional, Wednesday, April 9, Boomtown Hotel, Reno
- ◆ Unit Open/199er Swiss Teams, Take Me Out to the Ball Game, Sunday, April 13, lunch at noon, game at 1 p.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Celebrity Series Klinger Lecture, 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

### Club Contacts

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