



## FEBRUARY UNIT GAME TO HONOR THE OLYMPICS

The athletes will be braving the outdoor chill as they excel at the Winter Olympics in Russia, while the Unit Players enjoy indoor fun at the Unit Open and 199er Swiss Teams on Sunday, February 16 at the Bridge Center. Nancy Kehl and her committee have chosen an Olympic theme for the event with decorations in the Olympic colors. Lunch will warm everyone up with corn bread, garlic bread, chili, salad and homemade treats for dessert, just the thing for a cold weather meal. Come at noon for lunch followed by the game at 1 p.m.

To help the director, Will Watson, organize the

seeding and Nancy to plan for the food, remember to make a reservation for your team either on the web page (preferred) or on the list at the Bridge Center. Another reminder, arrive with your smile! Perhaps you can smile even more if you win one of the free plays.

As for the 499er players, come to the Bridge Center on Monday, February 3 at 6:30 p.m. for the Monday Night 499er Swiss Teams. There was no game in January so this is another chance to practice your bridge skills. There is an optional sign-up on the Unit web page.

## PLAYERS FIND FUN AND FEAST AT UNIT HOLIDAY PARTY

The Unit players had lots of smiles at the annual Holiday Party highlighted by bridge and dinner on Sunday, December 15 at the Bridge Center. The efforts of the committee insured an enjoyable event for all the players. Each player also brought holiday joy to the community with a toy donation.

The faces of a number of players beamed with delight as they scored victories in the 29-table open and the 12-table 199er flights. The top scores in the open game in A went to Ron Karr and Daniel Raider, in B to Tad and Florence Yoshikawa and in C to Jim Hulseman and Carl Bauerlen. Those with winning records in the 199ers were

John and Nancy Hogan in A and Diana Lloyd and Sheila Hochman in B/C.

Of course, the committee had a lot to do with the success of the party. Thanks go to Bob Horowitz for organizing the event, Bev Nuding for the catering arrangements with Mings, Will Watson, the director, Nancy Kehl for decorations, Elinor Tanck for reservations, Kevin O'Leary for toy delivery to the Mountain View Community Services and Paul Davis, Virginia Lyons, Dave and Kathy Puryear and Ron and Jolly Perkocha. Special kudos goes to Virginia Lyons, Cathy Priest, and Nancy Kehl for the homemade cookies.

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

## JEAN FLOCKS BEQUEATHS \$20,000 TO OUR BRIDGE UNIT



As you may know, last September 27, Jean Flocks, a member of our Unit for over fifty years, passed away after an extended illness. For over fifty years, Jean played at our

Bridge Center six days a week. She was a very important part of our Unit and Jean will be missed by all of us.

The Board has just learned that Jean has been extremely generous and has left \$20,000 in her estate to our Unit. In special recognition of this exceptional gift, our Unit Game on Sunday, March 23 will be The Jean Flocks Memorial Unit Game. We will have some photographs of Jean and most importantly we will have a selection of Jean's favorite bridge foods, different types of cookies. Also, our Board has appointed a committee to evaluate and decide upon any additional ways that our Unit can recognize such a special gift. Please get in touch with Brian Samuels if you have any ideas.

Our Board and all of our Unit members thank Jean and her family very much for this generosity. We shall really miss Jean.

## ACBL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION CANCELS OUR 503 FUND

The Unit has been funding our free lecture series and our library through donations made to our tax-deductible Education Fund administered by the ACBL Educational Foundation since 2007. Unfortunately, the Unit has received notice that the ACBL is canceling this fund effective the end of 2013.

The Fund has been a great service to our Unit. Over the years more than one hundred people have donated approximately \$60,000 to allow us to offer these educational programs to our members and friends. The Board extends its sincere thanks to all those donors who have helped provide excellent educational opportunities to both new and experienced bridge play-

ers to advance their game and to enjoy the life-long benefits of bridge and of membership in our Unit and the ACBL.

The current Fund balance is \$6,700 which will be used in 2014 for existing and perhaps new programs.

No definite decision has been made about how to proceed. Our own 501 C4 status does not allow for tax deductible contributions, but Unit members may certainly continue to make welcome but non-deductible contributions to our Education Fund. In the meantime, your Board will pursue other mechanisms which can allow our Education Fund to continue to be financed with tax-deductible contributions.

## BRIDGE NEWS

**Kudos**—The *Kibitzer* will no longer run Michelle Musy's column. Look for Kudos every month on the Unit web page under the "Players" menu.

**Celebrity Series**—The Ron Klinger Series continues with a lecture session on February 1 at 9:30 a.m. and mentored play on February 8, also at 9:30 a.m.

**Unit Lectures**—On Tuesday, February 11, John Williams will give advice on XYZ, not the XYZ affair, a late 18<sup>th</sup> century political episode, but the "XYZ Convention," which involves differentiation of weak, invitational and game forcing responses to New Minor Forcing. On February 25, Polly Siegel will speak on "Forcing Bids" with no details at this time about this subject.

**BIG Games**—Judy and Warren Goodnow, 74.6% at Wed. Aft. 99'er; Richard Kilner-Marjorie Sterngold, 73.7%, Belle Bestor-Beverly Ginsbery, 73.1% both at Vi DBC; Merry Stephenson-Ellie Bernhardt, 73.5% at Tues. Noon BC; James and Jayne Lipe, 73.5% at EZ Game. All these big scores happened in December. Pretty amazing!

**Bidding Box Trials**—John Mattis and Kevin O'Leary have mounted bidding boxes on the corners of four tables. This innovation has received good reviews. Players can remove the boxes and place them on the table. In the coming weeks, they will move the test tables in amongst the ones in the front of the room. They'll take a survey of the players on whether to add more.

**Our Kitchen is Off-Limits**—The County health inspector came several weeks ago and gave the Bridge Center an OK for another year! The one major complaint was players going into the kitchen; especially the several who took sodas out of the fridge. "That's a No No!" The Board has OK'd the purchase of a small fridge to be put in the food court.

**Library**—Our Unit Library has acquired 4 new booklets in Marty Bergen's series *Secrets to Win-*

*ning Bridge*. We already own numbers 1-28. Many of you have already borrowed some of these. The new booklets are: 29 – *Essential Tips for Good Competitive Bidding*, 30 – *Defense with a Capital D*, 31 – *Improve Your 2/1, GF Bidding*, 32 – *Opener's Best Rebids*. Each topic incorporates a very well-designed bridge presentation. To borrow one or more of these booklets, just use a book check-out form that can be found in one of the library cabinets.

**Name Tag Woe**—If you are one of the players who lost the magnet on your name tag, Min Wells has a solution. She found that a magnet from an old electric tooth brush is just what you need.



### SYMPATHY

Unit officers and members extend their sincere condolences to the family and friends of Unit member, Jeanette Rose, who recently passed away. Not only was she a bridge player but she also competed in tennis. We also extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Unit member Dolly Halden.

## KATHY HARPER AND RICHARD RECHT SCORE IN WINNERS TROPHY

With the points earned at the Unit Holiday party game, Kathy Harper overtook Tahir Gokcen to prevail in the Winners Trophy Race. For the non-Life Masters with under 300 points: Richard Recht was first with 8.1 points and Frank Lin second. Trophy chair, Steve Barasch, has announced the standings for the 2013 Unit Winners Trophy for the most points scored in

the 2013 Unit games: Kathy Harper-23, Tahir Gokcen-22.6, Polly Siegel-18.4, Don Rothschild-17.1, Jody Williams-16.6, Richard Williams-16.6; Non LM: Richard Recht-8.1, Frank Lin-7.0, Ron Perchoka-5.9, Joelle Perchoka-5.9, Wendy Benveniste-5.7, Debbie Machlin-5.7.

### NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members: Marina Lewis, Cindy McColl, Eugene Acton, John Hogan, Nancy Hogan, George Hopkins, Mary Hopkins, C.J. Jameson and Isabel Shaw.

### PLAYER ADVANCEMENTS

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

Junior Master	5 MP	Mary Nicholson
Club Master	20 MP	Larry Hambly, Misook Jung
Bronze Life Master	500 MP	Ivy Chueh



### OPONENTS ARE WATCHING?

When you sort your hand, consider that your opponents may be able to obtain information about your hand by watching where in your hand you pull a card from. Therefore,

- Don't arrange your cards Spades, Hearts, Clubs, Diamonds
- Don't display all suits high to low
- Do display your left two suits low to high
- Do display your right two suits high to low.

Example:

♥2 10 Q ♠2 8 J K ♦A T 4 ♣Q J 6

## BOARD CHOOSES 2014 OFFICERS

At the December 17 Board meeting, the members elected the following officers: President-Brian Samuels, Vice President-James Stuart-Smith, Treasurer-Todd Makler and Secretary-Leslie Altick. The President appointed Jim Harris as Unit Game Chair.

## UNIT GAME SCHEDULE

Mon., February 3 – 499er Swiss Teams  
 Sun., February 16 – Open/199er Swiss Teams  
 Mon., March 3 – 499er Swiss Teams  
 Sun., March 23 – Jean Flocks Memorial  
 Open/199er Swiss Teams  
 Mon., April 7 – 499er Swiss Teams  
 Sun., April 13 – Open/199er Charity Swiss  
 Teams  
 Sun., May 4 – Open/199er Swiss Teams  
 Mon., May 5 – 499er Swiss Teams

All games at Bridge Center

Times: Monday at 6:30 p.m., Sunday at 1 p.m.



If there's an accident, don't just let it be. Please clean it up yourself or notify a director to help us keep the Bridge Center carpet and chairs looking sparkling clean.

Yarborough \YAHR-bur-oh, -buhr-oh or, esp. British, -ber-uh\, *noun*:

*Whist, Bridge.* a hand in which no card is higher than a nine.

*Yarborough* came to English in the late 1800s after the 2nd Earl of Yarborough, who was said to have bet 1000 to 1 against the occurrence of a card hand in which no card is higher than a nine.

"Who kills over a bridge hand?

Anyway, I had a total **Yarborough** – look at my hand and look at her hand!"

-- Matthew Granovetter, *I Shot My Bridge Partner*, 1999

"When the time comes, I shall take a white handkerchief out of my coat pocket. That will mean that you are about to be dealt a **Yarborough**..."

-- Ian Fleming, *Moonraker*, 1955

Submitted by Lynne Larson

## NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, Feb. 6

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

*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
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

- ◆ **The Sunday, January 19th Unit game has been cancelled.**
- ◆ Celebrity Series lecture, Saturday, Jan. 18 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Upgraded Club Championship, Wednesday, Jan. 22 at 7 p.m., Doubleton Club, Bridge Center
- ◆ Celebrity Series mentored play, Saturday, Jan. 25 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Sectional, Saturday, Jan. 25 at Christiansen Mid. Sch., Livermore
- ◆ Unit Lecture, Tues. Jan. 28 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ SIVY Pizza Party, Play Bridge, Fri., Jan 31 at 4 p.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Celebrity Series lecture, Saturday, Feb. 1 at 9 a.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ 199er Swiss Teams, Monday, Feb. 3 at 6:30 p.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Sectional, Thursday, Feb. 6 at Club House, Fresno
- ◆ Celebrity Series mentored play, Saturday, Feb. 8 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Unit lecture, Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 9:30 a.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Sectional, Saturday, Feb. 15 at Comm. Ctr., El Cerrito
- ◆ Unit Open/199er Swiss Teams, Sun., Feb. 16, Lunch at noon, game at 1 p.m., Bridge Center
- ◆ Sectional, Saturday, Feb. 22 at Janet Pomeroy Ctr, San Francisco

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