



# KIBITZER



Newsletter of Palo Alto Unit 503 of the American Contract Bridge League

August/September, 2015

## UNIT BOARD ELECTIONS COMING.. PLEASE VOLUNTEER

It is time to begin thinking about next year's Board of Directors. Any member of the Unit can run for the Board, but historically it has been hard to find willing volunteers with experience on non-profit Boards. The success of our Unit depends on a lot of hard work behind the scenes and we rely on dozens and dozens of volunteers for various tasks.

This year the Board decided to increase the number of Board members from seven to nine. Therefore, in addition to replacing those members who are termed out, we will need at least two additional candidates. Elections will be held in October; the next edition of the *Kibitzer* will publish short bios and photos of the candidates.

The Nominating Committee consists of three current Board members, Dave Puryear, Paul Davis and Todd Makler. They welcome suggestions or questions you might have as well as, of course, your own interest in being a candidate. We need your help.

Contact Dave at [dpuryear3070@gmail.com](mailto:dpuryear3070@gmail.com), (650) 575-6443. Contact Paul at [plmdavis@pacbell.net](mailto:plmdavis@pacbell.net), (650) 888-3403. Or Todd at [todd.makler@gmail.com](mailto:todd.makler@gmail.com), (650) 969-6654.

**Late Flash!** Reward to a member or member's spouse with Portuguese heritage. Contact Jim Harris, [jmharris@pacbell.net](mailto:jmharris@pacbell.net).

## NAP FINALS IN PALO ALTO IN EARLY 2016

Our Unit is honored to be hosting the District 21 NAP (North American Pairs) finals in January and February for the very first time. We are extremely pleased to host and hope this will encourage many of our members to qualify and compete this year.

What's that about, you may ask? Well, the NAP finals are the last step in choosing the three top finishers from our district in Open and four top finishers in B and C. Those players will then be invited to attend the NABC in Reno in March, 2016, with monetary awards to be given by the ACBL.

To prepare for those finals our clubs are holding special NAP qualifying games now and through August. The terminology may be a bit confusing: since our games are owned by individuals, each director's games are technically a "club." For example, the Wednesday night Doubleton "Club" is holding an NAP qualifier on August 5; the Friday Night Barometer "Club" has scheduled a qualifier for July 31. The Saturday One Club qualifiers will be on August 8 and 29. Ask your director/club owner about additional qualifiers for August. The players who qualify at the Club level can then play in a Unit level NAP game, planned for December 13, to try for the finals; the hope is that LOTS of us will qualify.

**Unit Games:** August Unit games are scheduled for Saturday, August 1st at noon and Sunday, August 23 at 1:00 p.m. As is customary, the Saturday pairs game will include a Mentor/Mentee section if enough pairs sign up. The Sunday game is a team game. Lunch precedes both games. In September, the dates are Saturday, the 12th and Sunday, the 20th, with the same formats as in August. Be sure to sign up!

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

## RECENT BOARD ACTIVITIES

The 2015 Firecracker Sectional ran very smoothly and raised \$5,700 for Second Harvest Food Bank. We all owe a special thank you to Gill and Paul Barsley for their superb work organizing and managing this event. For reasons we do not fully understand, table counts were down this year, leaving us with a deficit of approximately \$2,500 (not all the expenses have yet been received). Since most of the Firecracker expenses are fixed, we are almost completely dependent on strong table counts for adequate revenue.

Planning for the 2016 Firecracker is underway. The Santa Clara Convention Center is not available for the dates we need next year, so we are likely to hold the event at the IFES Hall next door along with our own space at the Bridge Center. This venue will pose some new challenges, but it will also be less expensive, so the issue of table counts will be less critical. We have reserved the space for next June.

The upcoming elections and the NAP finals to be held in Palo Alto in January/February were also discussed. Reports of these can be found on page 1.

If you would like more information on any of these topics, please visit the Unit website where minutes of each monthly Board meeting are posted.

The next Board meetings are scheduled for August 4th and August 31st at 3:45 in the Bridge Center.

## LIBRARY HAPPENINGS..

Our Unit Library has acquired four new books by Larry Cohen. They are: *Bidding Challenge*, *Larry Teaches Defense*, *Larry Teaches Doubles* and *My Favorite 52*. The Defense and Doubles books have a spiral binding. You can find them on the shelf in alphabetical order by author.

From Amazon: "Larry Cohen is one of the most successful American bridge players of the last 20 years. In *My Favorite 52*, Cohen presents a collection of his favorite personal bridge moments, using an intimate 'over-the-shoulder' presentation, taking the reader through more than 60 deals. *My Favorite 52* was originally published as interactive software, and won the American Bridge Teachers Association's Software of the Year' award in 2005. This is its first publication in book form."

## PROGRAM MANAGER SKILLS? SiVY BRIDGE NEEDS YOU!

Through the talents and hard work of dozens of volunteers, Silicon Valley Youth Bridge has had a very strong first two years. We welcome all bridge players to volunteer as teachers, helpers, mentors, or with events! In addition, the organization is in need of two volunteers to fill key leadership positions: Volunteer Coordinator and After School Program Manager.

The Volunteer Coordinator ensures that everyone interested in helping is matched with a need. The ideal person will be well-connected in the bridge community, highly organized, and persuasive.

The After School Program Manager will run all aspects of our free of charge Elementary, Middle School, and High School clubs/lessons. He/she will help find schools interested in sponsoring a SiVY club, match volunteer teachers and helpers with the schools, and ensure that the programs run smoothly.

Please contact Cheryl Haines ([cherhaines@aol.com](mailto:cherhaines@aol.com)) if you'd like to volunteer in one of these – or any other capacity.

## STAC WEEK COMING SOON

Want to win 20 silver points while playing in a Club game? Well, it's possible, even though the odds are probably STACed against you.... It's the August **Summer Fun Sectional at Clubs**, and it's being held August 17 to 23. Don't miss that week of chances to take home basketsful of points!

## SYMPATHY

THE UNIT OFFICERS AND MEMBERS EXTEND THEIR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF  
ROGER JACKMAN, WHO PASSED AWAY RECENTLY

## SUE & LORI CELEBRATE THEIR DOUBLETON CLUB'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY

By SUE JOHNSTON

The Doubleton Club celebrated its tenth anniversary on June 17th this year with music, dinner, free-play drawings, an upgraded club championship, and an entry fee rollback for all players who attended its first game on June 15, 2005. Reservations were capped at 37 tables, and the winners of this celebration game, Kevin Rosenberg and Rich Pavlicek Jr., earned a whopping 8.81 masterpoints!

Lori & Sue's Doubleton Club made its official debut with a 12-table club championship, that was won by Don Rothschild and Tahir Gokcen. Both Don and Tahir were present for this 10th anniversary, and Lori and I were delighted to welcome thirteen more "original players": Jim O'Neil, John Schoenbrun, David Wheeler, Mike Andrews, Paul Cornelius, and Clara Chang; "original partners" Jennifer Gu and Nongyu Li, Rich O'Brien and Henryk Szejnwald, and John Rollin and Alex Stagner; and Alan Cummings, who kindly stood by in case a fill-in player was needed. The four winners of Doubleton Club free plays were Jim O'Neil, Isha Thapa, Isabel Shaw, and Omer Barnir.

The Doubleton Club owes its existence to our husbands, Mike Andrews and Grant Spaeth. The two of them thought Lori and I would make a good partnership, and we discovered they were right.

We had complementary skills and a similar vision.

### BIG GAMES!

We had Big Games (greater than 70%) May 7, Bruce Scott/Nadia Nillson, 70.5%; May 12, William Bailey/Debbie Rosenberg, 70.5%; May 26, Janet Dekker/Dolores Dunlap, 70.0%; May 30, Amar Chunder/Susana Chunder, 74.1%; June 2, Sudhir Virmani/Jerry Machle, 73.8%, June 4, John Stanczak/John Schoenbrun, 72.9%; June 16, Bill Mann/Ron Terry, 70.8%; June 23, Dorothy Shannahan/Martia Fikes, 70.2%. Next month, July and August numbers.



We wanted to create a game that would be a home for experienced duplicate bridge players, but would welcome newcomers, as well. Our first limited game (under 20 masterpoints), was held on August 3, 2005, with three tables in play. We expanded this to a 49er section on May 2, 2007, and as players advanced, so did our limited section.

The present 499er section was inaugurated on April 12, 2012, with fourteen tables in play; many of those players have now graduated to the Open section.

Anniversary celebrations often involve walks down memory lane, and several

of you shared your own memories with us. We were both touched to learn that many of you credit the Doubleton Club with creating lasting friendships, as well as lasting bridge partnerships. Anniversaries are also good times to plan ahead, and Lori shared our exciting news for the future. We are welcoming Marolyn Imaoka to the Doubleton Club team. The club's official name will become the "Doubleton Club," not "Lori & Sue & Marolyn's Tripleton Club." This new format will give Lori and me a chance to actually play in our game, something we've both hoped to do for a long time.

Thank you all for making our 10th anniversary such a special event. Thank you to the once-upon-a-time regulars who made an extra effort to join us. Thank you to those who came by just to congratulate us. Thank you all, new friends and old, who have made our club a success. We hope to see you all at our 20th anniversary game.

### SECOND HARVEST WINS!

A Unit Firecracker Sectional tradition is collecting donations for the Second Harvest Food Bank. This year you were especially generous...to the tune of more than \$5,700! Thank you to everyone who contributed!

And special thanks go to **Vera Baum**, who managed this year's highly successfully effort.

## 2015 FIRECRACKER RESULTS

BY GILL AND PAUL BARSLEY



Gill & Paul with mentor James-Stuart Smith

As Co-chairs of the Firecracker, our job is not yet done until we take a moment to reflect on the tournament for the Kibitzer. Since our table numbers were down from last year, 838 vs. 1042, we can-

not report a positive financial outcome. However, from the many positive comments and thanks we received from our players, the Firecracker was an overall success. It was wonderful to see the excitement of some of the newer players when they got their first silver points, and to see the future faces of the game in the younger players on Youth Saturday. Most rewarding though was to hear that, through your generosity, we collected just under \$6,000 for Second Harvest Food Bank – this was higher than last year, in spite of having fewer tables in play.

As usual, the Firecracker is a team effort and we wish to thank all the committee chairs and their volunteers. The Set-up team worked so efficiently to have the rooms set up and ready for play on Day 1; Chairs: Paul Barsley/ James Stuart-Smith. Paul Davis, Catherine and John Fisher, Joanne and Steve Jacobs, Nancy Kehl, Kevin O’Leary, Ron and Jolie Perkocha, Harriel Shea, Linda Wemmer.

Arriving players were met every day by the smiling and enthusiastic faces of the Hospitality and Partnership and Caddie teams: Chairs: Michele Musy/Joan Bower/Alan Wolman. Val Baldwin, Carl Baeuerlen, Fran Bennett, Joan Bower, Judi Gentry, Barbara Hansen, Paul and Irene Hashfield, Jim Hulseman, Lynne Johnson, Kip Kado, Anne Keyser, Debbie Lundahl, Donna Raynor, Jan Samuels, Barb

Shukov, Carolyn Taylor.

Partnerships – Chairs: Merle Orlove/Alan Polish. Valerie Baldwin, Carolyn Chaney, Gerry Gassman, Marcelo Gumucio, Debbie Machlin, Bev Nuding + partner, Kathy and Dave Puryear, Nan Roey, Rita Rubenfeld, Manda and Dan Thatte, John Verhagen, Peggy Wheeler.

Caddies – Chair: Josephine Ventura. Amanda Kerlee, Alex Kerlee, Kyra Helmhold, Noa Merry, Ryan Sato, Isabel Shaw and Winston Shustock.



Kip Kado, Jan Samuels, Barbara Shukov, Rose Lachman

Second Harvest Food Bank: Vera Baum

Flyer: Chris Bunz

Tear Down: Everyone who helped after the game.

Thank you to all!

Gill and Paul Barsley, Co-Chairs

## 2015-2016 LECTURE SERIES WILL BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER.

We, Chairs Carl Baeuerlen and Jim Hulseman, are pleased to inform you that the Unit 503 Lecture Series will resume in September. The lecture dates are: September 8, October 6, November 17, January 19, March 1, March 29, and May 24. Speakers and topics will be sent to the Lecture Series distribution list as the date approaches. If you are currently not on the Lecture Series distribution list and would like to be, send your name to: 503lectures@gmail.com

## FIRST AID COURSE FOR MEMBERS

Last year our Unit acquired an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and other materials for a first aid program, and it is now offering a second series of a Red Cross training course available at no cost to Unit members who play at the Bridge Center at least once a week.

In many cases, the minutes between the onset of a medical emergency and the arrival of emergency medical personnel after a 911 call are a critical time that can make the difference between a full recovery for the sufferer and something less. Early intervention can sometimes save a life.

The course consists of 2.5 hours of online study and 2 hours of in-class skills training, the latter to be held at the Bridge Center on Tuesday evenings. Here is a description from the Red Cross website:

The Adult First Aid/CPR/AED course incorporates the latest science and teaches students to recognize and care for a variety of first aid emergencies such as burns, cuts, scrapes, sudden illnesses, head, neck, back injuries, heat and cold emergencies and how to respond to breathing and cardiac emergencies for victims about 12 years and older. Successful students will receive a certificate for Adult

First Aid/CPR/AED valid for two years. This course combines online learning and a classroom skills session. Online learning must be completed prior to attending the classroom session. Details will be included via email once you register. This course will not work in Google Chrome.

To register for this free course or simply to learn more, email [jgprior@mindspring.com](mailto:jgprior@mindspring.com).

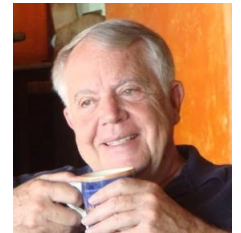
## NEWCOMERS

A hearty welcome to our most recent new members: Thomas C D'Arezzo, Toni Cullinane, Nora Frei, Michael Gardner, Anne Harrington, Paul McEleney, Robin Sacks, Ned Stone, Joshua Wang, Jiajun Wu, Jonathon Youngquist

## WHAT'S THIS?



Why, it's the venue in Deauville, France where our friend, Jim O'Neil, has been playing for the last several days. Can't you just picture him there????



## PLAYER ADVANCEMENTS

The May and June ACBL reports shows that the players identified above have moved up.

Congratulations to all!

Junior Master	5 MP	Allison Bennett, Kerry Fanwick, Joseph Hirsch, Leika Kejriwal
Club Master	20 MP	Armond Bigler, Ellen Miller, Marian Smith, Vicki Warden
Sectional Master	50 MP	Cornelia Hornstein, Christopher Kolner, Ying Liu, Norman Rosenstock, Marilyn Taketa, Judy Tanigami, David Torin, Hai Zhu
Regional Master	100 MP	Warren Goodnow, Charles Herbert III, Michael Hu, Anne Ward
NABC	200 MP	Tom Huang
Life Master	300 MP	David K Cheng, Elizabeth
Gold Life	2500	David Wheeler

*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
		<100, <500 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
	Doubleton Club	Open/Strat.	7:00 p.m.	Spaeth/Johnston	Bridge Center
	Doubleton Club	< 499 M.P.	7:00 p.m.	Imaoka	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
FRI	The EZ Game	<30 M.P.	9:00 a.m.	John Williams	Bridge Center
	TGIF AM Bridge	Open/Strat./	10:30 a.m.	O'Leary, Davis,	Bridge Center
		499er	10:30 a.m.		
	Friday Night Barometer	Open/Strat.	7:00 p.m.	Will Watson	Bridge Center
	Friday Night Barometer	<500 MP	7:00 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.	Will Watson	Bridge Center Closed Until Further Notice

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- \* Saturday-Sunday, July 25, 26. 9:00 a.m., Larry Cohen lecture, Bridge Center. (See web site for details.)
- \* Monday, July 27. Larry Cohen lecture in Marin. marinunit508@gmail.com
- \* Friday, July 31. 3:00 p.m. SiVY Pairs game, Bridge Center
- \* Friday, July 31, 7:30 p.m. NAP (North American Pairs) qualifying game, B. Ctr
- \* Saturday, August 1. 12:00 p.m. Unit Pairs Game. Includes Mentor/Mentee if possible. Lunch at 11:30.
- \* Sunday, August 2, 5:00 p.m. SiVY Pairs Game—Pizza and Bridge. B. Center
- \* Wednesday, August 5, 7:00 p.m. NAP (North American Pairs) qualifying game. Includes Limited MP Section\* Qualifying - SIGN UP
- \* Saturday-Sunday, August 8, 9. NLM Sectional, Fresno.
- \* Sat.-Sun. , Aug. 15, 16. Back to San Mateo Sectional, Event Center, San Mateo.
- \* Mon.-Sun. August 17—23. Summer Fun STAC games. All clubs.
- \* Sunday, Aug. 23, Unit Teams Game, 1:00 p.m. Includes limited masterpoints section. Lunch at noon. Signups needed.
- \* **Tuesday, Sept 1—Monday, Sept 7, All Western Championships Regional. Hyatt Regency Hotel, Santa Clara.**
- \* Tuesday, Sept. 8, 9:30 a.m. First Lecture of the season. Bridge Center.
- \* Saturday, September 12, 12:00 p.m. Unit Pairs Game. Includes Mentor/Mentee if possible. Lunch at 11:30.
- \* Sunday, September 20, Unit Teams Game, 1:00 p.m. Includes limited masterpoints section. Lunch at noon. Signups needed.
- \* Tuesday, September 22, 9:30 a.m. Second Lecture of the season. Bridge Center
- \* Sat-Sun, September 26, 27. Earthquake Sectional. Gilroy Senior Center.

### Club Contacts

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