



KIBITZER



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

June/July, 2015

SEE YOU SOON AT THE FIRECRACKER!



The Firecracker is less than a month away now (June 10–14). Find the schedule on our web site, paloalto-bridge.com. A very big thank you to everyone who has volun-

teered to help with set-up and the Partnership Desk. We are still looking for volunteers to staff the Hospitality Desk.

Hospitality is really fun to do—you get to meet and greet and be the welcoming face of the tournament! The participants really appreciate being welcomed, having someone who can help with questions, and, of course, be the ones who keep those candy bowls full. Don't worry, the committee provides all the candy! All you have to do is show up and smile. The Hospitality desk closes 10 minutes before each game starts, so you would have plenty of time to get to your game. If you are interested in helping during one of the 50-minute time slots prior to the games, please contact Michele Musy, mmusy@apr.com, (650) 323-3033.

SPRING CLEANING

Fourteen people volunteered to do heavy cleaning for three hours on May 2 to spruce up the Bridge Center. We really appreciate the work they did. Our janitorial service takes care of our floors and basic bathroom cleanup but it has been a long time since we cleaned anything else.

Some of the tasks were truly backbreaking. Special thanks to the people who cleaned the kitchen and bathrooms. Now that we're closer to having a clean facility, let's keep the momentum going so that future cleanups will be easier.

The volunteers were: Pat Chambers, Carol Fields, Mona Foley, Saroj Gulati, Lee Haze, Susana Krulevitch, Chuck Lane, Sally Lau, Gary Lipe, Jan Samuels, Lori Spaeth, Marcy Tivol, Jody Williams, and Margery Yates.

HERE COMES LARRY COHEN!

Our bridge club will be hosting Larry Cohen for a 2-day seminar July 25 and 26th. Winner of 25 National Championships, author, and teacher, Larry will be showcasing his "Law of Total Tricks" and 3 other subjects to intermediate and advanced players. Cost is \$75 each day before June 15 then \$85/day after that. A light lunch is included. You will not want to miss this world-renowned expert.

Unit Games: June Unit games come near the end of the month because of the Firecracker earlier. The Saturday pairs game is scheduled for June 27 at noon, with lunch at 11:30. The Sunday team game is the following day, June 28, with lunch at noon and the game at 1:00. Both games feature a limited master point section. And be sure to sign up! In July, don't miss the Saturday Pairs Unit Game on July 11, with lunch and separate limited MP game as usual. As yet no Swiss Unit game is scheduled for July.

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

Parents & "Children" on June 21

On June 21 in honor of both Fathers Day and The Longest Day, a very special family event will be offered with each pair consisting of a parent or grandparent partnering his/her child or grandchild. "Child" is being loosely defined for this special game (hence the quotes in the title) in that *players are welcome to partner their offspring of any age*.

Please take this opportunity to bring your adult children to play, even if they know only the basics of the game. While this will be an ACBL sanctioned duplicate, it is a friendly and social game. As long as players can make legal bids and plays, they are eligible. Etiquette and proprieties can be learned as we go along in a low pressure environment. If attendance allows, we will have two sections, with a separate section for the newest duplicate players.

We expect our youngest participant to be 5 years old - let's go for a big spread from there to our oldest! If you have an appropriate partnership for this game in your family, please make an effort to join us. Let's demonstrate that bridge is an activity parents and children can enjoy together their whole lives, while helping keep the family's minds sharp.

The game fee is \$8, including a light lunch at 12:30, with game time at 1 p.m.. Youth players 25 and under pay only \$4. Parent-Child games play only 16-18 boards, and there is a milk & cookies half-time break! The game will be over by 4PM.

Please register in advance at paloaltobridge.com and clicking on SiVY Bridge. Questions? debbie@siliconvalleyyouthbridge.org

EXTRAVAGANZA!

Lori & Sue are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Doubleton Club on Wednesday evening, June 17 (schmoozing at 6:30; bridge at 7:00). In addition to all sorts of special treats, this will be an Upgraded Club Championship - triple master-points! Sign up required! Please go to their blog at <http://doubleton.blogspot.com>

WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS....

Kudos and many thanks to our wonderful 2014-2015 volunteers,: Leslie Altick, Sioux Atkinson, Carl Baeuerlen, Valerie Baldwin, Merri Banks, Gill Barsley, Paul Barsley, Fran Bennett, Joan Bower, Chris Bunz, Corinne Carter, Pat Chambers, Carolyn Chaney, Alan Cummings, Paul Davis, Carol Fields, Mona Foley, Sue Griswold, Saroj Gulati, Jim Harris, Lee Haze, Bob Horowitz, Jim Hulseman, Kip Kado, Nancy Kehl, Marian Kelly, Gil Koury, Susana Krulevitch, Chuck Lane, Sally Lau, Gary Lipe, Margot Livenspargar, Diana Lloyd, Todd Makler, John Mattis, Kevin O'Leary, Dave Puryear, Roy Robinson, Brian Samuels, Jan Samuels, Prue Saunders, Fred Schwerer, Jennifer Sheppard, Barbara Shukov, Lori Spaeth, James Stuart-Smith, Alan Templeton, Dan Thatte, Marcy Tivol, Dave Wheeler, Jody Williams, Margery Yates. **Thank You!**

BIG GAMES!

We had Big Games (greater than 70%) in March: Michael Hu - Linzhi Hu 76.56% on the 1st; Terry Ahern - Anne Bossange 70.11% on the 2nd; Jo Palermo - Wally Hugo 70.54% on the 12th; John Stanczak - Trina Bowman 72.72% on the 25th; Shirley Negrin - Evelyn Katchman 73.96% on the 27th. April: Harriel Shea - David Gambelin 70.34% on the 3rd; Elizabeth Kan - Kato Reis 71.53% on the 4th; Wendy Benveniste - Debbie Weinstein 70.71% on the 7th; and Kate Talbot - Zakir Mohammed 72.22% on the 25th.

HANSA SCORES!

Did you notice that Hansa and her teammates are now USA #1? That means that of the two teams who will represent the U.S. in Chennai, India in September in the competition for the Venice Cup, they are Number 1. The Venice Cup is a world championship tournament for women held every other year. Hansa's teammates are Jill Meyers, Jill Levin, Jenny Wolpert, Migry Zur Campanile and Judi Radin. Way to go, Hansa!!!! We'll be cheering for you.

LBIAD – A HUGE WIN!

Our Bridge Center was jam-packed with eager newcomers to bridge at Learn Bridge in a Day on Saturday, May 9. In fact, with 172 participants, this was the largest LBIAD ever, and it topped last year's event at our center by 20 players. Patty Tucker, inventor of the LBIAD program, flew in from Atlanta to teach and several local teachers attended so that we can continue to offer this program around our district. The follow-up evaluations were very positive, both the written ones and the oral ones overheard by mentors. One learner said, "I can see why this game is so addictive," and another was already rounding up folks from her neighborhood for a game. Other comments were: Table mentor was great! Excellent class to introduce the basics! I will continue to learn and practice! Really enjoyed it...THANKS!

We owe many people thanks for making our LBIAD event such a great success: Thanks to Geeske Joel for donating air miles so that we could afford to invite Patty to come. Thanks to Val Baldwin and the 45 mentors who donated their Saturday so that every table could have individual attention. Thanks to Carolyn Chaney who organized, managed publicity, and generally shepherded things along. Thanks to our Board and to all those members who supported LBIAD by inviting friends and family to attend. Thanks to John Prior who gave up his Saturday game so that newcomers could catch our fire. Thanks to Santa Clara Unit 507 who co-sponsored this event with us and promoted it to their friends. Several youths served as table mentors, making the other youth feel at home in a roomful of adults, so thank you SiVY

Addendum from Jody: Special thanks to Carolyn Chaney. She is a terrific organizer who put in many hours to make this happen. In addition, she provided Patty's lodging and transportation to minimize costs. The event was projected to lose \$800 - \$1000. Instead of losing money, we made a small profit. Thank you!

PLAYER ADVANCEMENTS

The March and April ACBL reports shows that the players identified at the right have moved up. Congratulations to all!

Our Unit Library has acquired two new books on declarer play. *The Art of Declarer Play* by Tim Bourke and Justin Corfield is the 2014 IBPA Master Point Press Book of the Year! If you already have a good grasp of relatively advanced declarer-play technique, this is the book for you. The second book is *Improve Your Declarer Play: Five Steps to Simplify the End Play* by Audrey Grant. This is the second title in Audrey Grant's Bookmark Series. You will learn how to better recognize suits led by defender, identify the exit card, eliminate defenders' options and plan the throw-in. There are explanatory hands plus ten practice deals. Fold-out bookmark flaps reference the essential ideas.

NEWCOMERS

A hearty welcome to our most recent new members: Lisa Bao, Marc Cervallino, Jonathan Coleman, Charles Gray, Brenda Hatton, Natalie Huang, Nathan Huang, Brahm Levin, Deborah Levin, Ellen Li, Noah Miller, Howard Rosenberg, Suzanne Schauwecker, Aidan Schackleton, Sudhir Virmani, Qi Yao

Junior Master	5 MP	Ellen Beaudet, Christine Forter, David Held, Nini Jongejan, Ellen Li, Patricia Murray, Matthew Shi, Qi Yao, Mary Lou Zoback
Club Master	20 MP	Richard Ahrons, Pamela Buckley, Peter Dehlinger, Dianne Giancarlo, Yumi Kobayashi, Ada Kriegman, Dale Seymour, Behnaz Taidi, Clover Worland, Mike Wyman, Susan Zhang
Sectional Master	50 MP	Jana Cushman, Mary Ann Hayward, William Mann, Alexandra Narasin
Regional Master	100 MP	William Bailey
NABC Master	200 MP	Devesh Goyal, Annie Green, Debbie Weinstein
Life Master	300 MP	David Crosley
Bronze Life Master	500 MP	Isha Thapa
Silver Life Master	1000 MP	Naren Gupta

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
	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
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

- * Monday, May 25 – Sunday, May 31, Ca. Capital Regional, Sacramento
- * Saturday-Sunday, June 6 & 7, San Francisco Sectional, Pomeroy Ctr.
- * Tuesday, June 9, 3:45 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting, Bridge Center
- Wednesday, June 10 – Sunday, June 14 our own Firecracker Sectional.**
Convention Center, Santa Clara. Y'all come!
- * Wednesday, June 17, 7:00 p.m., Doubleton Club Championship 10 Year Anniversary! Includes: Limited MP Section, Bridge Center
- * Fri.–Sun, June 19-21, East Bay Spring Sectional
- * Sunday, June 21, 1:00 p.m., SiVY Youth Bridge Parent-Child Championship, Bridge Center. More details on p.2.
- * Saturday, June 27, 12:00 p.m., Pairs Unit Game, includes lunch before and limited MP section, Bridge Center
- * Sunday, June 28, 1:00 p.m., Teams Unit Game, includes lunch at noon and limited MP section, Bridge Center
- * Saturday, July 11, 12:00 p.m., Pairs Unit Game, includes lunch before and limited MP section, Bridge Center
- * Tuesday, July 14, 3:45 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting, Bridge Center
- * Fri.-Sun., July 17–19, Castro Valley Sectional, Transfiguration Church
- * Saturday-Sunday, July 25, 26. 9:30 a.m., Larry Cohen lecture, Bridge Center. (See web site for details.)
- * Monday, July 27. Larry Cohen lecture in Marin. marin-unit508@gmail.com

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