



**MARCH UNIT GAMES: SATURDAY,
THE 7TH AND SUNDAY, THE 8TH**

The next Unit Games are Saturday, March 7 for pairs and Sunday, March 8 for Swiss teams. The schedule for the entire year has now been posted on the Unit Special Games and Events calendar. Upcoming pairs games are April 4 and May 3. Upcoming Swiss team games are April 12 and May 17.

Our annual Membership Meeting will be held at the Saturday game. Members are encouraged to submit questions or comments for the Board members who will be present.

As always, the Saturday game opens at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and the playing starts at 12:00 p.m. The Sunday team games open for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and the playing starts at 1:00 p.m. Signups are strongly encouraged. If you need a partner or team mate(s) please sign up anyway and indicate what you need, including a ride, on the signup sheet.

We have changed the limited section to be based on the partnership or team average. So if the combined total of master points is less than 600 for pairs or 1200 for teams, you will be eligible to play in the limited section; please indicate section preference when you sign up.

**IT'S LATER THAN YOU THINK....
THE FIRECRACKER WILL SIZZLE
EARLY THIS YEAR**

If you haven't done so already – mark your calendars for the Firecracker – our club's "Super Sectional" tournament. It will be held June 10 to 14 this year. You can find all the tournament details, the playing schedule and parking information on our Unit website under the Events tab.

Please remember that this is a Unit event and we need your help to make it a successful tournament. We will need volunteers to help setup/take down and to staff the Partnerships and Hospitality tables. Once again, we are supporting the Second Harvest Food Bank at the tournament and we need a chairperson to co-ordinate this initiative.

Thank you to those of you who have already signed up to volunteer.

Gill and Paul Barsley

gillbarsley@gmail.com and pbarsley@sbcglobal.net

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 10

3:45 p.m. Bridge Center

All are welcome to attend.

Mark Your Calendars-- April Unit games to happen on Saturday the 4th for pairs, and Sunday the 12th for the Jean Flocks Memorial Swiss Team Game. That day will also feature a mentor/mentee section. May Unit games are spread out....Saturday, the 2nd for pairs and Sunday, the 17th for Swiss Teams.

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

JANUARY 24TH MENTOR-MENTEE GAME RESULTS

Eight M-M pairs enjoyed a grand game on Saturday, January 24 with Alan Templeton/Debbie Lundahl catching 1st place with a whopping 65.97%, followed by Valerie Baldwin/Francie Green with 56.94%. It was the first of a series of M-M Sections with all favorable comments.

We hope more pairs will catch the M-M spirit and sign up for the April 4th Unit game. Contact Alan Cummings to become a Mentor (especially) or Mentee. alan.cummings@stanford.edu, (650) 619-6664

NEWCOMERS

A hearty welcome to our most recent new members: Jean-Frederi Abouardham, Chun Chang, Lucas Huang, Constance Ives, Jason A Long, Olga Schanz, David A Spaulding, Jeanne C Spaulding

SECOND ANNUAL YOUTH BRIDGE SUMMER CAMP

The SiVY Bridge second annual Summer Camp will offer two sessions this July for students entering 5th through 12th grade in the Fall. Students new to bridge will learn the basics of bridge bidding and card play during Session One, July 20-24. They can choose to continue their learning by also signing up for Session Two, July 27-31. Those with experience may attend either or both sessions and will be assigned to a group with similar skill levels to rapidly advance their play.

Tell your neighbors, grandkids, nephews/nieces! Volunteer to help with these or other SiVY events at SiliconValleyYouthBridge.org and/or follow SiVY news at facebook.com/siliconvalleyyouthbridge.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING, 2/17

President Jody Williams announced that District 21 had chosen our Unit's nominee, Margot Liven-sparger, as the recipient of its annual Goodwill Award. Congrats Margot!

During the President's Day Regional the Bridge Center had the chairs and carpets cleaned. Our kitchen also passed the County Health inspection. Thank you Kevin O'Leary!

The Committee on the Future of the Firecracker will hold its first meeting on March 9 after the Monday game (approximately 3:00). Anyone interested in joining this group is welcome. The Bridge Center cannot function without volunteers and this is just one of many opportunities to contribute your time and expertise.

The Board made the following decisions during this meeting:

- ⊙ We will explore hosting future Grand National Pairs and Teams events (in 2016) if the financial issues can be worked out.

- ⊙ We will provide Recognition Packets for members who transfer into our unit as well as those new to the ACBL.

- ⊙ We authorized funds for free play prizes for unit games and unit-sponsored events such as Learn Bridge in a Day.

- ⊙ We clarified our policy on fees for private lessons at the Bridge Center: the standard fee will apply (currently \$3 per person) but use of the Center is not exclusive and is limited to times when the Center is open.

- ⊙ We voted to provide \$275 to the Stanford University Bridge Team which has qualified for the Collegiate Nationals. The funds will buy a new set of boards and tee shirts for the team members to wear during the competition. The shirts will acknowledge Palo Alto Unit in some way.

In other news, our outside financial review has been completed and we passed with flying colors.

UNIT NEWS

Big Games— greater than 70% in January: Brian Samuels -Kip Kado 70.20% on the 6th; Nini Jongejan - Dick Ahrons 70.02% on the 7th; Sharon Humphreys - Patricia Murray 71.21% on the 14th; Y Chen - David Chang 71.27% on the 15th; Bill Dougherty - Kathy Dougherty 74.56% on the 21st; Jack Clinch - Dave Bernstein 72.% on the 27th.

Library— Our Unit recently acquired the four booklets Marty Bergen has added to his Secrets to Winning Bridge Series. They are: #33 – Squeezes Made Easy; #34 – How to Bid Good Slams and Avoid Bad Ones; #35 – Terrific Tips for Better Bidding; #36 – After Partner Passes. Give them a try. A few of the booklets are missing from our collection. If you have them at home please return them so that others can enjoy them.

Upcoming Lectures—On Tuesday, February 24 at 9:30 a.m. Frank Smoot lectures on Matchpoint Declarer Play, or ideas to help you outscore the field. In March, two great lectures are scheduled. On the 17th, Sue Johnson has a great title, “I Know I’m Supposed to be Thinking, but What is it I’m Supposed to be Thinking About?” At month’s end, Tuesday, the 31st, Frank Smoot is back to discuss Penalty Doubles. Lectures always begin at 9:30. And remember...if you miss a lecture, you can find speaker’s notes on our web site!

New Unit Directory—Barbara Shukov is hard at work updating our member directory for its 2015 edition, to be released shortly. Please notify her of changes to your information. bshukov@pacbell.net.

Larry Cohen - Larry Cohen, renowned writer, teacher and winner of many tournaments will be here July 25th and 26th to present two one-day seminars. Subjects covered will include: *Counting* - What separates the good players from the card throwers; *Restricted Choice* - Simplifying a Confounding Card-

Play Topic; *Top Ten Defensive Tips* - The Fast Track to Improving Partnership Results; *Law of Total Tricks* - Battling for the Partscore. Registration will begin mid-May. Since this will be a very popular event, email unit503mentor@gmail.com to be notified when registration opens.

Kibitzer in Print - Kibitzers printed in black and white should always be available on the front entry table. If you can’t find one there, please look on the top shelf in the library, just around the corner from that front entry table, and bring out a few. Thank you!



Our Unit’s youngest bridge player, surely! Here’s Metin Gokcen with four month old daughter, helping at Kathy’s Monday evening class....

SYMPATHY

THE UNIT OFFICERS AND MEMBERS EXTEND THEIR CON-
DOLENCES TO THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF

KIP KADO

KIP’S HUSBAND, TIM, ALSO A UNIT MEMBER, PASSED AWAY
RECENTLY FROM LUNG CANCER

Approx. 150 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.

REMEMBER, YOU HAVE A PARTNER BY D.K.

1. You are South. You hold ♠QJ10xxx ♥Kxx ♦x
♣AQx and open: S W N E

1S x xx 3C

4S p p p

Your partnership has an agreement that in this sequence xx shows 10+ points and nothing about distribution. When South bid 4S, he forgot that he had a partner and decided to jump to game all by himself. Had he remembered that he had a partner he would have doubled 3C or passed and let partner decide what to do next. South was down 4 in 4S. Had he chosen either of those bids, the opponents would have been down 3 doubled in any contract they chose. South is a veteran LM.

2. South, holding ♠A10x ♥Kxxx ♦Axx ♣AKQx opens:

S W N E

2NT p 3C 3D

P 3H 3NT 4H

4S p p p

Until the last bid, South, a Gold Life Master, has described his hand perfectly. North knows that South has 20 high card points, a balanced hand and does not have 4 spades. South does not know what North has, so South should let partner make the decision. The 4 spade bid keeps partner from bidding, the result being South is down 4.

3. And now something for when you remember and trust your partner...

West: deals and opens the bidding:

W N E S

1D p 1S p

2S p 4S p

p p

You are South holding ♠xxx ♥AJxx ♦Qxxxx ♣x, and you lead the singleton club. North wins with the club A and returns the club 10. Now what? Generally (by agreement) the return of a high card means partner wants the higher suit, but there is a singleton heart in dummy and you have the ace. If you trust partner, you must under lead your heart A and you will be rewarded with another club ruff.

UNIT LEADERS IN ACE OF CLUBS AND MINI MCKENNEY

Each year the ACBL gives the Ace of Clubs awards to the players who earn the most master-points in club games and the Mini-McKenney awards for total points including sectional and higher ranked tournaments. On the next page you see all those in our Unit who played well enough in 2014 to earn honors in their respective sections. Hearty congratulations to each of you!

PLAYER ADVANCEMENTS

The January ACBL report shows that the players identified at the left have moved up.

Congratulations to all!

Junior Master	5 MP	Richard E Geno, Maxine Kenin, Max L Schireson, Susan X Zhang
Club Master	20 MP	Jerry P Machle, C Vivian Pezzani, Marcy Tivol
Sectional Master	50 MP	Paul M Adriani, Jenny Blaschke, Leigh S Cassidy, Louis C Cole, Joanne Jacobs, Sheldon Keyser, Ginny Strock
Regional Master	100 MP	Deborah J Machlin, Alan L. Polish
NABC Master	200 MP	Agnes W Lee
Life Master	300 MP	Roger D Griffith
Bronze Life Master	500 MP	Etta G Herbach
Silver Life Master	1000 MP	Rose Lachman
Gold Life Master	2500 MP	Claire L. Coleman

Palo Alto Unit 503 Board

Jody Williams, President
Leslie Altick, Vice President
Todd Makler, Treasurer
David Puryear, Secretary
Paul Davis, James Harris, Kevin O'Leary,

Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race 2014

Points 12/31/2013	Player	Points Earned 2014
0 to 5 MP	Jana Cushman	35.93
	Christopher Kolner	34.93
	Marcy Tivol	30.82
	Hai Zhu	29.85
5 to 20 MP	Michael Hu	73.56
	George Hopkins	39.29
	Mary Hopkins	39.09
	Joan Smith	34.25
20 to 50 MP	Leila Mattinger	159.96
	Anne Ward	44.38
	Isabel Shaw	31.39
	Kathleen Quinn	29.57
50 to 100 MP	Donald Vance	99.82
	Linzi Hu	98.98
	Misook Jung	90.08
	Merri Banks	84.6
100 to 200	David Cheng	212.27
	Erli Zhou	140.4
	Donald Cohn	112.48
	Winston Huang	99.46
200 to 300	Todd Makler	114.04
	Jon Rayden	104.36
	Carl Baeuerlen	79.86
	Carol-Ann Ackerman	76.56
300 to 500	Lynn Giusti	103.43
	Merry Stephenson	89.81
	Kip Kado	89.35
	Barbara Hansen	85.38
500 to 1000	Barbara Shukov	441.89
	Naren Gupta	307.13
	Don-Min Tsou	230.21
	Steve Hubbell	221.32
1000 to 2500 MP	Vinita Gupta	1079.37
	Polly Siegel	426.85
	David Wheeler	285.57
	Andrew Hoskins	274.99
2500 to 5000	Geeske Joel	594.17
	James Merzon	281.11
	Prudence Saunders	270.87
	Marolyn Yancey	239.92
5000 to 7500	Mary Ann Berg	486.01
	Barbara Sonsini	264.66
	Margery Yates	213.71
	Richard Spitalnick	162.36
7.5K up	Hansa Narasimhan	393.61
	Jim O'Neil	343.72
	Gary Macgregor	342.7
	Debbie Rosenberg	295.31

ACE of Clubs Masterpoint Race 2014

Points 12/31/2013	Player	Points Earned 2014
0 to 5 MP	Jana Cushman	31.00
	C.Vivian Pezzani	18.52
	Christopher Kolner	18.25
	Marcy Tivol	16.73
5 to 20 MP	Nancy Hogan	25.38
	Puliur Santhanam	23.49
	George Hopkins	20.45
	Mary Hopkins	20.25
20 to 50 MP	Leila Mattinger	33.56
	Anne Ward	28.69
	David Torin	24.35
	Isabel Shaw	23.58
50 to 100 MP	Kathryn Papermaster	52.71
	Misook Jung	45.53
	Eugene Acton	35.25
	Merri Banks	35.24
100 to 200	David Cheng	89.68
	Donald Cohn	65.15
	Paul Li	55.34
	Vera Baum	53.48
200 to 300	Carol-Ann Ackerman	58.63
	Frederick Tierney Jr.	47.26
	Wendy Benveniste	45.62
	Todd Makler	42.78
300 to 500	Rick Flucke	57.21
	Pei Sun	56.31
	Rochelle Gutmann	36.87
	Beverly Bernhardt	35.88
500 to 1000 MP	Don-Min Tsou	142.47
	Michele Musy	91.19
	Brian Sanuels	75.79
	Barbara Shukov	73.17
1000 to 2500 MP	Polly Siegel	186.98
	David Wheeler	176.09
	Franklin Gonzales	135.23
	Sigmund Malek	129.28
2500 to 5000	John Stanczak	146.11
	Lori Spaeth	121.22
	Fung Bao	120.78
	Marolyn Yancey	112.94
5000 to 7500	Margery Yates	119.06
	Patricia Chambers	103.81
	Robin Chambers	80.66
	Barbara Sonsini	39.09
7.5K to 10K	Jim O'Neil	164.17
	Hansa Narasimhan	104.72
	Donald Rothschild	93.33
	Gary Macgregor	48.25

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 Re-Opens March 6
	Friday Night Barometer	<500 MP	7:00 p.m.	Will Watson	Bridge Center Re-Opens March 6
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

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Feb 28-1, Sat. & Sun., NLM Sectional, San Jose Bridge Center
- Feb 28-1, GNT Flight A Qualifying, E. Bay Bridge Center, Oakland
- Mar 1, Sunday, 12 noon, SiVY Bridge Parent/Child Game, Bridge Center
- Mar 7, Saturday, Unit Pairs Game, 12 noon, Bridge Center
- Mar 8, Sunday, Unit Swiss Team Game, 1 p.m., Bridge Center
- Mar 7-8, Almost Spring Sectional, El Cerrito Community Center
- Mar 7-8, Grand National Teams: Flight B Qualifying, El Cerrito Community Center
- Mar 14-15, Rising Stars 500/NLM Sectional, The Kirby School, Santa Cruz
- Mar 17, Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., Lecture by Sue Johnston
- Mar 21-22, Santa Rosa Spring Sectional, Odd Fellows Hall, Santa Rosa
- Mar 27-29, S. Clara Valley Sectional, West Valley College, Saratoga,
- Mar 28-29, Grand Nat. Teams, Flight A Finals, West Valley College, Saratoga
- April 4, Saturday, Unit Pairs Game includes Mentor/Mentee section, 12 noon, Bridge Center
- April 25, Saturday, First Annual Bay Area High School Bridge Championship, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Bayshore Bridge Club, Burlingame

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