

Kibitzer

Volume XLVI, Issue 5

May, 2008

Education Fund Programs Will Enhance Everyone's Bridge Skills

First, though, help is needed to get the programs running.

Our hard-working 503 Education Committee (Alan Cummings, Dave Bernstein, Eric Mayefsky, Geeske Joel, Gabriella Bowling and Donna Armstrong) has created a list of four programs to kick off the use of the Unit 503 Education Foundation funds. Each of the programs will offer an opportunity for Unit players to enhance their bridge skills through educational programs supported by the Foundation's funds.

The four program areas which the Committee suggests are:

- 1. Workshops Unit and local professionals to answer questions and offer comments and advice on conventions, bridge hands, etc. Tentative schedule is the first and third Tuesdays of the month. No charge.
- 2. Lessons Professional lectures, hand outs, sample hands on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month as above.
- 3. Speakers Guest speaker before or after any Unit club game to increase interest at the local club owner's game. Committee working with owners will select topics, speakers, dates etc. Again no charge.
- 4. Library Bridge Center location for donated and new books, software, periodicals. The Unit already has two librarians: Donna Armstrong and Steve Barash and invites others to join them on the staff. The library has received a donation of 16 books and will soon be ready to look for more.

BRIDGE WITH A SWISS FLAVOR TEAMS MEET SUNDAY, MAY 18

Say cheese! Parmesan, Gouda, Brie or Goat? No it's time for **Swiss** again, at the Unit Teams at 12:45 p.m. on Sunday, May 18 at the Bridge Center. There will be two sections, open and 99er, each with its own director.

It is important to sign up on the list at your local club. The Unit wants to include all teams who wish to participate. To guarantee a spot, sign up by Friday, May 15 and arrive at the game before 12:45 p.m. because there is limited space and signed-up teams will get preference. List a full or partial team or contact the Unit Game Chair, Mike Atherton at michaleatherton@sbcglobal.net. Another option is to phone the Bridge Center at (650) 940-1824 to request a signup for your team.

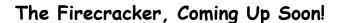
Come with your smiles and say cheese for a fun time with bridge!

TIME FOR FUN AND GAMES AT FIRECRACKER 2008

Get your dates marked and your partners lined up for our "super" Sectional Firecracker 2008. This year we're back in the elegant Hyatt Regency Santa Clara hotel (last year it was in the adjacent Santa Clara Convention Center) at 5101 Great America Parkway. The five day tournament will start on Wednesday evening July 2 with a 7:00 p.m. session and continue through Sunday evening July 6. The full program of events and the schedule are at our website, paloaltobridge.com; select the Firecracker Sectional link at top left, then select "Please see the flyer for events and times." The Contract Bridge Forum will also publish the flyer in the May and June issues.

This year's program will feature three Compact Knockout (Continued on page 2)

Kibitzer



(Continued from page 1)

events which, for those who are unfamiliar with this type of game, consist of 12-board rounds and a consolation bracket for teams that are KO'ed in the first round. Also, there will be a Bracketed Knockout game over the Friday and Saturday sessions, Swiss Teams every evening except Wednesday, and Open and Intermediate/Newcomer pair games at all time slots (except – no I/N pairs Sunday). Sunday will feature Swiss Team games in both the Open and Intermediate/Newcomer categories. There will also be Open pair games Sunday morning and afternoon. So as you can see there will be plenty of action for everyone's preferences.

For newer and intermediate players, there will be a bridge lesson (topic to be determined) given by two of our Unit's talented teachers Frank Smoot and Lori Spaeth on Thursday at 11:00 a.m. In addition, we are quite fortunate to get super Grand Life Master Gene Simpson to be the guest speaker on Thursday at 12:15 p.m., when he will host a question and answer session from the audience.

Tournament Organization

Nancy Boyd will be our Director in Charge. Among the other directors are Jay Magid, Dianne Barton-Paine and Tom Quinlan. At the local level, we need lots of volunteers and assistants to staff the many jobs and functions that organize and run the tournament. Please contact the Tournament Chair, Steve Lubeck, if you can help during the tournament by phone at (650) 592-7707 or splubeck@yahoo.com.

Several Unit members have agreed to head up the working committees including Ginger Herrick who will once again handle the Partnership desk. If you would like to help match partners, please contact her directly at (650) 948-2995 or email at ginger@khcww.com. Phyllis Gaffney and Marilyn Payne will co-chair the Hospitality Committee. They will decorate both the Partnership and Hospitality tables and will staff Hospitality throughout the tournament. Lorna Corbetta (please get well soon, Lorna) will again be in charge of getting the many caddies and

Table Talk

Ace-Mini—The Unit has posted the 2008 Ace of Clubs and Mini McKenny race standings as of March 31 on the Bridge Center bulletin board.

Masterpoint High Point—Belated congratulations to Hamish Bennett, who frequently competes at local club games, for reaching the 20,000 masterpoint level.

Rise and Shine - Richard Stolee, a bridge player and an avid weather sleuth, keeps a coterie of his colleagues, friends, and bridge partners up to date with his emails about weather which are often more accurate than the professionals. He used to post his weather forecasts at the Bridge Club weekly. He now has a weather-related website: http://weatherpro.wordpress.com. Bookmark it and get your Stolee weather fix with your morning coffee.

Engagement - Unit member Steve Cochran sent an email to family and friends announcing his engagement. But they found it hard to believe. The email date was April 1!

NEWCOMERS

A warm welcome to new Palo Alto Unit 503 members Susan Abernethy, Safieh Afshar, Gillian Humphries, Randy Rhody, Dan Thatte, Manda Thatte, Mary McNellis, Dorothy Weber and Jeannette Heidrich.

Lynne Johnson and Carolyn Lemm will assist. If anyone knows of available caddies, please give their names and contact information to either of them. Lastly, but just as importantly, we need lots of helpers to set up and equip the bridge tables on Wednesday afternoon and then to take them down on Sunday evening. Steve Barasch and Allen Wolman will co-head this committee – please let them know if you can help out or say "Yes," if they ask you. Please help make Firecracker 2008 as big a success as it has been in past years.



UNCOVER SILVER AT MAY STAC

The May STAC is a sectional tournament played simultaneously in local clubs throughout the Western Conference. The ACBL promotes attendance by offering silver points and inflated masterpoint awards while playing in your home club comfort.

Play in the Sectional Tournament at Clubs (STAC) at Unit clubs during the week of Monday, May 5 through Sunday, May 11 to win sectionally rated points. All the clubs listed in the directory on the back page, except EZ Game, plan to hold STAC games. Come to this popular event – the competition is great, the masterpoint awards are high and there is a hoard of silver points awaiting the winners. Play well and play often for lots of STAC points!

Please Help with Education Fund Programs!

(Continued from page 1)

Are you interested? We hope so, because we need some members to take ownership of these proposals and to make them a reality. In other words, we want YOU to enjoy the benefits of the above programs, but we also NEED you to help with the organizational work.

Responsibilities will include planning, identifying topics, obtaining lecturers and/or speakers, scheduling, flyers, publicity in the *Kibitzer* and on the web site, event oversight and evaluation.

The Unit needs volunteers who are willing to involve themselves and take leadership positions organizing one or more of the above programs. The more volunteers we have the better to make the 503 Education Fund a model for the future of bridge. Alan Cummings and the committee have done a lot of work on the use of the Education Foundation funds Now it is the responsibility for the remaining 800 Unit members to make their administrative contributions by signing up with Eric Mayefsky at mayefsky@stanford.edu or (914) 299-1311. More details are available from Eric so feel free to contact him for further information.

Kibitzer

In March and April UNIT STAGES TWO UNIQUE GAMES

On Sunday, March 23, the Unit held the Teams of Two Pairs with 16 tables in the open flight and six in the 99er. In the open section, the team of Bruce and Barbara Lutrell, Bonnie Janzen and Dan Brown led the field with the team of Richard O'Brien, Franklin Gonzalez, Sigmund Malek, Henryk Szejnwald best in B. In the 99er division, the team of Judith and Geoff Blood, and Susan and Michael Stiege were victorious in A/B and Shirley Streifer, Robert Bergey, Bob Rove, Anna-Maria De Acha triumphed in C.

The ACBL has designated April as the time for its Charity game. The Unit held this special pairs game on Sunday, April 13, with IMP scoring instead of the usual masterpoints. In the 18-table open flight Martie Moore and Maria Braab were highest in the A/B strata with Stephanie Kung and Helen Chang first in C.

Valerie Baldwin and Susan Griswold showed the way in the seven table 99er game. Unit Game chair Mike Atherton expresses his appreciation to the directors, Will Watson, Clarie Coleman and John Mattis. Thanks also go to Martie Moore, Will Watson, Marilyn Payne and Mike and Marcella Atherton for refreshment set-up and clean-up for the events.

Newcomer Games

Tuesday evening (Begin./Intermed.) Wednesday afternoon (<50) Wednesday evening (<50) Thursday evening (Stanford) (<50) Friday morning (<30)

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, May 6th at 3:45 p.m. **Bridge Center**

Kibitzer Page 4

JAMES NEWELL

By Mary Van Tamelen



In a long life—ninety years plus—a man can do a lot. And James New-ell sets a stunning example.

A physician, he also found time to father four children, serve as a doctor in the Navy, sail, climb mountains, ski, garden, play tennis, build a second home in Alpine Meadows, as well

as set up a thriving medical practice—the largest single-specialty practice in the area. He figures he has delivered some four or five thousand babies.

And besides all that, he plays bridge. He's done that, he says, "all his life." His life has encompassed the two coasts; he was born in Spokane, went to Stanford, then Cornell, ending up in Boston at Massachusetts General Hospital specializing in surgery and obstetrics and gynecology. After the war and the breakup of his first marriage, he moved to California. Here, he married Marilyn, another bridge player, as well as a sailor.

In a long life, a lot can happen. And Jim has stories galore. Like the serious seven-day storm he encountered while sailing a 37-foot boat with a very sick Marilyn. Or like the time he accidentally shot himself with a soft-nosed bullet through both legs while on a picnic. A medical student at the time, he had his roommate apply a tourniquet, call ahead and arrange for a tetanus shot. That was before antibiotics and Jim spent the whole summer in a cast. Or like the time in the Navy when he surreptitiously brought a poodle dog to sea. The dog, Jacques, was not well appreciated by the other officers because of his habit of taking one shoe from each officer and placing it on the fantail of the boat. And then one day Jacques alerted the crew of a kamikaze pilot coming at the boat at water level. After that, the officers not only accepted but they even also saluted Jacques.

Chess is a good game, Jim says, but bridge is "much better". He has taken some lessons from Cameron, Carla Davis and Gene Drew, but says he just plays by the "old methods." He feels he is "too old to learn," but this congenial nonagenarian really likes the *people* who play bridge.

It Seems to Me By Gersh

Here is a hand which seems too simple, but appearances are deceiving: North

- ♦ J6542
- **9**8
- ♦ AK3
- **♣** 764

South

- ♠ AKQ83
- ♥ AK4
- **♦** 65
- **♣** AQ8

Opening Lead: ♦ J.

You are South in a contract of 6♠.. Here a novice will sometimes get the same result as an expert. The novice sees that she can make the hand if the ♣ K is held by East. So to spare herself pain, she wins the opening lead, draw trumps, and takes the club finesse.

The expert takes a bit longer to plan the play. First she notes that if the \$\ 8\$ were the 9, the contract would be safe. She plans to call trumps, strip the red suits from both hands, and finally lead a club from dummy. If East plays low, declarer plays the 8. West wins but is end-played. She must lead a club up to declarer's AQ or else give declarer a ruff/sluff. But if East is on her toes, she will play the 9,T or J on the first club, thus breaking up the endplay.

Before committing herself the expert tries to COUNT. She takes the ◆K on the first trick and calls trumps. West is void in spades; so declarer plays three rounds. She takes the ◆A and trumps dummy's last diamond, on which West discards. Declarer now plays the top hearts and trumps the third heart in dummy. Both defenders follow suit to three rounds of hearts. The expert relaxes. She knows she will make the hand regardless of the position of the ♣K!

Here is the count: West had two diamonds; therefore East had six. East followed suit to three rounds of spades and three rounds of hearts. That accounts for twelve of her cards. So East has, at most, one club.

So the expert plays a small club from each hand and doesn't care who wins it. If East wins, she has no more clubs and must give declarer a ruff/sluff. If West wins, she must play up to declarer's AQ of clubs or give declarer a ruff/sluff. Simple.





March 2008 Winners' Circle





Daily game results are at www.paloaltobridge.com

Sunday

Sunday Afternoon S. Malek/R. Ng J. Flocks/C. Lazarovici (B) B. Luttrell/B. Janzen

M. Larkin/D. Hornback B. Luttrell/B. Janzen

Unit Game

(AB) B. Banda/D. Sgolombis (C) N. & T. Cadwell M. Larkin/C. Colvin

30

Monday Bridge Mix

Palo Alto BC

Tuesday

Alpine BC (AB) H. Harbatkin/M. Brabb (C) G. Leitstein/P. Kueffer R. Williams/R. Dean (B) K. Kelly/R. Lachman (AB) D. Duncan/C. Binasik (BC) M. Pensler/R. Ponnapalli J. Schoenbrun/J. O'Neil (ABC) C. Engelhard/E. So (AB) M. Akselrad/L. Haze

(AB) D. Wheeler/G. Wheeler (C) R. Smadi/J. Prior (AB) A. Templeton/J. Adamiak (ABC) P. Lee/C. Leung M. Chen/M. Hafezi (AB) J. Tseng/N. Wang (BC) B. Donoghue/L. Doying P. Chambers/D. Bernstein (AB) S. Light/D. Lowry (BC) S. Lubeck/L. Mattis (ABC) M. Pensler/R. Ponnapalli M. & T. Sato (AB) A. Foti/K. Hergatt (ABC) M. Cox/S. Grogan

P. & R. Chambers (B) C. Cole/M. Kelly (C) P. Kueffer/K. Kelly J. Schoenbrun/J. O'Neil (AB) Y. Chen/N. Wang (C) S. Shat/C. Leung V. Gupta/E. Barlow (AB) A. Arnold/S. Morley (AB) A. Templeton/N. Stevens

(ABC) R. Markell/A. Bialson M. Yates/G. Herrick (BC) M. Pensler/R. Ponnapalli (AB) G. Joel/N. Rude K. Harper/J. O'Neil (BC) M. Smith/J. Leaver H. Corbin/L. Spaeth (AB) J. Girand/R. Scheidtmann (C) A. Foti/K. Hergatt

Tuesday Noon BC D. Hornback/A. Mollard (B) A. Story/H. Chapman J. Brandon/M. Marx (B) B. & W. Sturtevant (C) D. Weissman/P. Stoner J. Schwartz/J. Williams (B) G. Spaeth/M. Atherton E. Gove/J. Chui (B) P. Bellamy/N. Finney (C) B. Ross/B. Nuding

(ABC) G. & J. Blood A. Mollard/J. Franke (B) R. Ward/J. Newman C. Kwiatek/F. Bao (B) G. Spaeth/M. Atherton A. Robertson/E. Edwards (BC) V. Howard/L. Tanner

S. Lubeck/J. Hornback (B) J. & T. Iverson (AB) J. Foley/J. Sheppard (AB) J. Foley/J. Sheppard (C) D. Niemann/K. Cano (ABC) M. Cook/S. Barba C. Weiler/C. Lemm (BC) B. Ross/B. Nuding (ABC) J. & T. Iverson (AB) K. Shafer/K. Kulander

(C) L. & M. Zatz L. Johnson/E. Kotecki (B) T. Letchfield/C. Naar (C) F. Schwerer/C. Shoens F. & S. Charney (B) B. & W. Sturtevant (C) G. Tanner/V. Howard

> Wednesday Bridge N Brunch

(AB) M. Coy/G. Herrick (C) J. Samuels/M. Wilson L. Spaeth/D. Bernstein (A) Y. Chen/W. Ren (C) A. Mollard/J. Franke

(AB) M. Sterngold/N. Nilsson (C) E. Herbach/A. Bialson M. Hafezi/C. Colvin (B) P. Tsu/D. Wheeler (C) D. Foster/C. Lemm

L. Spaeth/D. Wheeler
(B) B. Hirsekorn/M. Moore (C) D. Kelley/J. McNeil (AB) B. Hsu/P. Tsu (C) C. Lemm/J. Cross P. & R. Chambers

(AB) F. Miller/R. Singer (C) K. Kelly/R. Lachman (AB) D. Hornback/P. Tsu (ABC) J. Mattis/C. Lemm

Wed. Aft. 49er

J. Prak/K. Burtness Prak 5 S. Ahnger/S. Barba 12 J. Blood/A. Grindon

R. Rove/B. Nuding 19 J. Lynch/M. Maxfield

S. Sevey/L. Brauner J. Buchanan/J. Barrett R. Rove/B. Nuding

Lori and Sue's Doubleton Club (ABC) M. Gokcen/S. Arf J. Stanczak/S. Cagnina

(AB) D. Wheeler/K. Siedenburg (ABC) R. O'Brien/H. Szejnwald AB) P. Losch/A. Schmid (AB) J. Miller/N. Homan

C. Hanel/L. Frost (ABC) S. Arf/M. Gokcen
(AB) E. Mayefsky/J. Ewald
(C) D. & K. Puryear
(AB) L. & R. Giusti
AB) M. Stephenson/M. Gray
E. Barlow/D. Bernstein

(AB) A. Lam/D. Allison (B) R. Bestock/M, Harris (AB) B. Liang/O. Chapelle (C) D. Fecher/R. French (AB) P. Losch/A. Schmid (AB) K. Peterson/J. Hubbard (AB) S. Foreman/H. Zoellner (ABC) C. Pryor/V. Galis (AB) E. Mayefsky/J. Ewald (BC) M. Payne/G. Spaeth E. Kamas/K. Hopkins (AB) F. Schwerer/G. Duffie (AB) D. & P. Dollinger

> Thursday Thursday Aft. BC

(AB) N. Evans/A. Arnold (AB) J. Robinson/D. Bernstein

B. Beardsley/R. Chambers (AB) C. Engelhard/E. So (AB) J. Wu/N. Wang (AB) N. Evans/A. Arnold

M. Hafezi/R. Chambers (AB) W. Mackinnon/J. Stuart-Smith

(AB) N. Evans/A. Arnold (C) P. Tsu/D. Chang C. Brigham/T. Bowman (ABC) B. Baxter/M.

> Sherie's BC M. Sterngold/H. Sung

R. Singer/F. Bao G. & G. Fong P. Gaffney/B. Mash J. Cross/L. Lemm L. Isaacs/J. Lucas

J. Sogg/D. Hornback R. Pollack/R. Smadi L. Johnson/J. Bower T. Hall/D. Halden M. & J. Williams L. Isaacs/J. Lucas

J. Sogg/D. Hornback T. & F. Yoshikawa J. Ventura/J. Sheppard M. Christensen/L. Welch M. Radin/V. Hatton H. Fordham/B. Tiernan M. Sterngold/M. Marx

L. Kelly/H. Sung F. Bao/S. Atkinson M. Atherton/E. Edwards S. Barba/M. Cooke M. Stephenson/A. De Acha

Friday The EZ Game

Friday Morning BC

M. Yates/H. Solleder F. Parsons/M. Hafezi (AB) D. Wheeler/D. Bernstein (AB) B. Pomeroy/H. Harbatkin (B) C. Fay/C. McGorvin (C) L. Whelan/R. Palmer (C) G. & M. Wilson

P. & R. Chambers D. Wheeler/J. Robinson (B) N. Rude/N. Cadwell (BC) K. Erstad/K. Villareal

(C) P. Bellamy/N. Finney L. Spaeth/J O'Neil C. Brigham/G. Herrick (B) J. Hack/L. Martin (BC) K. Smith/J. Vadasz

H. Solleder/A. Levy B. Banda/C. Colvin (B) M. Sterngold/T. Kridl (B) D. Lowry/R. Luik

Friday Night Barometer

Saturday One Club

All games take place at 2639A Terminal Blvd., Mountain View 94043 unless otherwise noted.

DAY	BRIDGE CLUB	TYPE	TIME	DIRECTOR(S)	PLACE/OTHER INFO
MON	Bridge Mix	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	Kevin/Bonnie/Claire	
	Palo Alto Bridge Club	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	John Prior	
TUES	Tuesday Noon BC	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	Walter Miller	Unity Church, YES Rm, 3391 Middlefield Rd, PA
	Alpine BC	Open/<1K	12:00 p.m.	Will Watson	
	Just For Fun	Begin./Inter.	7:00 p.m.	Solna/Omer	No game on May 13.
WED.	Bridge 'n Brunch	Open/Strat.	11:00 a.m.	Sue Johnston	
	Wed Aft. 49er	<50 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	
	Lori & Sue's Dblton Club	<50 M.P.	7:00 p.m.	Spaeth/Johnston	
THUR	Thur. Afternoon BC	Open/Strat	12:00 p.m.	Beardsley/Mattis	
	Sherie's BC	Open/Strat.	12:30 p.m.	Sherie Greenberg	4000 Middlefield Road, Auditorium, Palo Alto
	Intermediate Lessons		7:00 p.m.	Frank Smoot/Lori	
	Cardinal DBC at Stanford	<50 M.P.	7:00 p.m.	Eric Mayefsky	Elliot Prog. Ctr., 589 Governor's Ave., Stanford
	Cardinal DBC at Stanford	Open	7:00 p.m.	Eric Mayefsky	Elliot Prog. Ctr., 589 Governor's Ave., Stanford
FRI	The EZ Game	<30 M.P.	9:00 a.m.	Kathy Harper	
	Friday Morning BC	Open/Strat.	10:30 a.m.	Claire Coleman	
	Friday Night Barometer	Open/Strat.	7:30 p.m.	Claire Coleman	
SAT	One Club	Open/Strat.	12:00 p.m.	John Prior	
SUN	Sunday Afternoon BC	Open/Strat.	1:00 p.m.	Coleman/Watson	

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Sectional, Saturday, April 26 at Catholic HS, Kentfield
- Sectional, Friday, May 2 at Community Center, Orangevale
- Great Western Spring STAC Week, Monday, May 5-Sunday, May 11 all clubs but Easy Bridge
- Sectional, Thursday, May 15 at Bridge Ctr. Marina
- Unit Swiss Teams, Sunday, May 18 at 12:45 p.m. Bridge Center, please use advance sign -up list.
- Regional, Monday, May 26 at Doubletree Hotel, Sacramento

Directors:

Bonnie Beardsley (408) 263-5953 Claire Coleman (650) 368-5917 Sherie Greenberg (650) 856-7941 Kathy Harper (650) 207-1816 Sue Johnston (510) 505-0275 John/Linda Mattis (408) 739-7812 Eric Mayefsky mayefsky@stanford.edu Walter Miller (510) 839-5929 Kevin O'Leary (650) 279-0005 John Prior (408) 745-0380 Frank Smoot (408) 732-5736 Lori Spaeth (650) 947-9370 Will Watson (650) 804-1731

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Congratulations to the following players who have moved up as reported by the ACBL in April

Junior Master	5 MP	Susan Barkley, C. J. Jameson, Naomi Klughaupt, Ronald Perkocha	
Club Master 20 MP		Jan Boelke, Eric Hart, Michele Miller	
Bronze Life Master	500 MP	Freya Charney, Kathleen Kelly, Randee Palmer	
Silver Life Master	1000 MP	Margot Livenspargar	
Gold Life Master	2500 MP	Larry Mohr	

Palo Alto Unit 503 Board:

Dave Wheeler, President
Martie Moore, Vice President
Susana Krulevitch, Secretary
Alan Templeton, Treasurer
Mike Atherton
Gabriella Bowling
Trina Bowman
Alan Cummings
Nita Girand
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