



Newsletter Vol. 8/No. 8

August 1, 2009

Editor's Note

I have been the Editor of the Newsletter now since January and, I want to thank so many of you who have taken the time to comment on how much you like the Newsletter.

A lot of you have asked who writes the articles. While I write some of the items, the Newsletter is a composite document from many sources – the Board, our Special Chairpersons, our Teachers and Directors and You, our members. All submissions are read, and edited where applicable. So, if you have something you think would be of interest to our Membership, please send it to me at ginnieb21@hotmail.com

Sandy Busby, our Membership Chairperson, is responsible for maintaining our email list and for sending out email notices. She also sends out the Newsletter once she gets it from me. So, if you have changes to your email, please send them to Sandy at sandbuz@aol.com.

I am always trying to improve the Newsletter and, as you can see, I have put the Index up front for easier access. Please let me know if you have any ideas or comments on how to make our Newsletter better.

Thank you all for your support!

Ginnie Blitzman, Editor

| Index | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Editor's Note | 1 |
| President's Message | 2 |
| Membership | 3 |
| Calendar | 4-5 |
| New Items | 6-8 |
| Water | |
| Are you an A, B, or C player? | |
| 10 Reasons Why I Want to Sit E/W | |
| The Board Keeps Wrestling | |
| Yes, She's Here | |
| The Sisterhood of the Gold Points | |
| Special Items | 9-11 |
| From the Directors | |
| Meet the Members–The McClymonds | |
| E-Mail | 12 |
| Kitchen | |
| Mentor Program/Photography | |
| Lessons and Classes | 13 |
| Library/Publicity | |
| Website/Board/ | |
| Teachers/Partnerships | 14-15 |

President's Message

By Richard Leach

WHAT'S NEXT:

We are getting the final bids for installing a new entrance to the Men's and Women's bathrooms. You will enter the door that is currently the Storage Room and then enter the bathrooms from a door to the left for the Men's room and to the right for the Women's room.

We are also planning on installing a beautiful non-slip ceramic floor in the bathroom and kitchen. This should last forever and really look nice. We really want to guard against slipping! We will try to have all work performed at minimum inconvenience to our members.

The Board has decided to increase the number of Charity games per week. In addition to the Wednesday evening, Thursday once a month, and Sunday Swiss games, the Friday evening and Saturday pair games (all Charity), we have added the Monday and Thursday afternoon games. Why so many Charity games? This is a way the Club can let you earn more master points as allowed by ACBL. It cost a dollar more! The extra money is sent to our charity, The Orange Co. Food Bank or an ACBL charity. We have to send the charity money to ACBL every other charity game.

And speaking of extra points, Andy De Leon has found a way to give the top players for each session extra points each month. So, the more you play, the more you can win. Way to go Andy...

We as a Board always welcome your letters and comments concerning our Bridge Club. While we can't make everyone happy, we always discuss your concerns at our monthly Board meetings. All members are welcome to come. Our next meeting is on Friday, August 21st at 9:00 am. We serve fresh muffins!

Membership

By Sandy Busby

Awards

(Awards are usually a month behind.)

Congratulations to those earning new ACBL rankings.



Junior Master: (5 MPs)

Peggy Brand, John Horvath, Frances Krause, Arlen Ryberg

Club Master: (20 MPs)

Stephanie Fltke, Tanya Johnson, Susa Marcley, Kay Skjei

Sectional Master: (50 MPs)

Rejane Larochelle

Regional Master: (100 MPs)

Karen Aiello, Dae Leckie, Janie Matlaf

New Master Point certificates have been made and are posted on the Bulletin Board; old certificates are in the upright plastic containers on the front counter for you to take home.

Happy Birthday – August Birthdays

Barbara Anderson . Amy Brown . Gloria Carrillo . Meg Casalapi . Michael Cohen . Gillian

Cook . John Cox . Helaine Feingold . Odette Forbes . Sharon Forslund . Susan Froome .

Debbie Gailfus . Nancy Galloway . Jan Gloudeman . Marie Haggard . Chuck Haggerty . Jane

Hester . Teri Hirasuna . Kristine Katz . John Kissinger . Frances Krause . Ann Kwo . Bob

Lankau . Trish Menefee . Emely Moeller . Shirley Nisbet . Roy Okpish . Emily Ospenson . Jon

Palmear . Faye Smith . Cheryl Stelle . and Bill Velick.

A special birthday to **Odette Forbes who is 95 years young on Aug. 11th!**

Did you know that when DHBC first started that Odette use to plan, shop, and cook the food for the club usually 3 days a week? Those were the days my friend....

Please contact Sandy Busby for any additions, etc. to our birthday lists – sandbuz@aol.com. (Be sure to check the list kept on the food counter as well.)

New Members

Welcome new members: **James Clifford and Jeffrey Rocklin.**

Game Calendar

| August 2009 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| | | | | | | 1 11:45 Free Lesson 12:30 Charity Open & Games |
| 2 | 3 12:30 Open & 299'er Charity Games 7:00 Easy Bridge III+ | 4 12:30 Open & 299'er Games | 5 9:30 Easy Bridge II 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 6:30 Charity Swiss Teams | 6 12:30 Open & 299'er Charity Games | 7 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 7:00 Charity Open Game | 8 11:45 Free Lesson 12:30 Charity Open & NLM Games |
| 9 | 10 12:30 Open & 299'er Charity Games 7:00 Easy Bridge III+ | 11 12:30 Open & 299'er Games | 12 9:30 Easy Bridge II 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 6:30 Charity Swiss Teams | 13 12:30 Open & 299'er Charity Games | 14 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 7:00 Open Game – NAP Qualifier | 15 11:45 Free Lesson 12:30 Charity Open & Games |
| 16 1:00 Unit Game | 17 12:30 Open & 299'er Charity Games 7:00 Easy Bridge III+ | 12:30 Open & 299'er Games | 9:30 Easy Bridge II 12:30 Open & 99'er 6:30 Charity Swiss Teams | 20 12:30 Swiss Team Charity Games - Open & NLM | 21 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 7:00 Charity Open Game | 22 11:45 Free Lesson 12:30 Open Game – NAP Qualifier |
| 23 1:00 Charity Swiss Team Game | 24 12:30 Open & 299'er Games 7:00 Easy Bridge III+ ----- | 25 12:30 Open & 299'er Games ----- Great | 26 9:30 Easy Bridge II 12:30 Open & 99'er 6:30 Charity Swiss Teams Western Summer | 27 12:30 Open & 299'er Games ----- STaC ----- | 28 12:30 Open & 99'er Games 7:00 Open Game ----- | 29 DHBC NLM Sectional |
| 30 DHBC NLM Sectional | 31 12:30 Open & 299'er Charity Games 7:00 Easy Bridge III+ | | | | | |

Regular Daily Game Schedule

| | | |
|-----------------|----------|--|
| Monday | 12:30 PM | Open & 299'er Stratified Charity Games |
| Monday Eve. | 7:00 PM | Easybridge |
| Tuesday | 12:30 PM | Open & 299'er Stratified Games |
| Wednesday Morn. | 9:30 AM | Easybridge |
| Wednesday | 12:30 PM | Open & 99'er Stratified Games |
| Wednesday Eve. | 6:30 PM | Swiss Teams Charity Game |
| Thursday | 12:30 PM | Open & 299'er Stratified Charity Games |
| Thursday* | 12:30 PM | Open & NLM Charity Swiss Teams – 3 rd Thursday <i>USUALLY</i> |
| Friday | 12:30 PM | Open & 99'er Stratified Games |
| Friday Eve.** | 7:00 PM | Open Stratified Charity Game |
| Saturday** | 12:30PM | Open Stratified Charity Game 2 nd Saturday – Additional NLM Game |
| Sunday* | 1:00 PM | 3 rd Sunday <i>USUALLY</i> - Unit Game 5 th Sunday – Special Unit Game 4 th Sunday <i>USUALLY</i> – SWISS Teams Charity Game |

Notes on the Regular Daily Schedule

*Be sure to check the website for any date changes.

**These games are sometimes canceled for local tournaments. Be sure to check the website for any cancellations.

A light lunch is provided for all games.

Website – When you access our web address, the main page has a listing of **Special Events** for the current and next month these are not the regular daily schedule. There are links on the page to the Regular Daily Schedule.

New Items

(New Items are announcements or notes of interest not appearing in other parts of the Newsletter that will usually appear one time.)

Water

As you have probably figured out by now, the Board found a solution to the water problem noted in last month's Newsletter. We have great reverse osmosis water (sorry, still no ice). This water is better than tap or bottled water. So, enjoy!

Are you an A, B, or C Player?

Some of you have been baffled by how players are stratified. You have 1500 points and you think you are an A player, or you have 60 points and you think you are a C player. Well, the truth is all strats depend on the players (the field) currently playing in any given game. So, for instance, the person with 60 points plays in an NLM game and is ranked a C player and another day plays in a 199'er game and is ranked an A player because everyone else that day has less points; the player with 1500 points plays one day in a 'weak' field and is ranked A and another day in a 'strong' field and may be ranked B or even C.

Strats are determined by the Director in most games except where they are pre-set (i.e., STaC). It is important for the Director to 'balance the field' so that stratification is more even (and fair) – that is why you can't always have the direction you request.

10 Top Reasons Why I Want to Sit East/West

By Susan Kissinger

10. Direction is not my forte.
9. I don't like to be responsible to score the boards.
8. I fall asleep when I don't move.
7. If I get up and move around, I hear more gossip.
6. If I get up and move around, I get more attention.
5. If I don't like my opponents, I can get up and leave immediately after the round.
4. It's nice to get a little exercise.
3. I can demonstrate my agility.
2. I don't play better sitting North/South.
1. I am getting up to check on the goodies in the kitchen every round any way.

The Board Keeps Wrestling

By Jacob Weisberg

What's a Board to do when there are so many items that keep coming up? Wrestle with them. And that's what the Board did at its last meeting. Here's the big decision the Board reached as you are probably aware by now.

The club will no longer have a telephone answering machine. This means you cannot call and request any particular seating. It's physical presence that counts. Only one member of a partnership needs to be here to register their REQUEST for N/S, but one member of the partnership does have to be here. The Club is now on a first come, first served basis, and even then, a request for a specific directional seating is just that, A REQUEST. A request may be declined.

The Director will work hard to make sure that fields are seeded equally with pairs of like strata both N/S and E/W. The Director's decision is final on any given day.

What if you have a medical need for a N/S location? No problem. The Board recognizes people with special N/S seating needs. A current list of these people will be given to the Directors. If anyone not currently on the 'needs' list has a medical need and can verify it with a doctor's note, they too will be accommodated. Submit your request to our Secretary (me) for verification. Although your name will be published as being on the list, THE REASON SHOWN ON THE MEDICAL NOTE WILL REMAIN PRIVATE.

The Board hopes this will assure proper seeding of the field and eliminate the complaints that it has received from players about what they consider the inequity of the seating. The Board is not being facetious when it says, "If you've gotten used to a specific seating, or a specific seat, it hopes you'll appreciate a view from a different perspective. It hopes the quality of the game will go up."

Yes, your Board made the decision about N/S seating...and we didn't keep it secret, we sent an email to everyone outlining the decision and the application. Well, one thing is for sure, lots of our members read their emails. That's good. One other thing is for sure. Our members have opinions. Fortunately, as of this early report, most emails and comments made to the Board about the decision have been favorable. People approve. Everybody approves? Of course not, but far more say YES than HOW COME?

In any event, this decision is now in effect. If anybody would like to comment on it, please, by all means, do so...and take your choice of method...write, and the whole Board will get to see it, or, come to the next Board meeting and address the Board. We'll all be there. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 21st at 9:00 AM. I already told one person about that and this person commented, "That early in the morning? I don't think I can be there." But if you can and want to, we welcome you. Other than that, let's give the plan an opportunity to succeed.

Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

PS- Remember, when October comes around (just a few months away) and if you're asked if you'd like to be considered for nomination for membership on the Board, just say YES....then you'll have a chance to become part of the process of decision making for the club, and be a member of the group (the Board) which gets fabulous pay, wonderful benefits plus plaudits and adulation for its work. ☺

Yes! She's Here!

By John Kissinger

Yes, it's the new dealing machine! Our first roll-out of pre-dealt hands, only slightly touched by humans, were the Wednesday and Thursday afternoon games, July 29th and 30th. Sections were duplicated so scoring was across the field for true overall rankings, just as it is done at tournaments. Players received pre-dealt boards, no sorting or making boards for us!

As to the machine, it is an optical reader that uses ordinary cards, no off-putting bar-coded cards are required. Cards are dealt directly into our new boards that go into the machine in only one way, minimizing errors. And, hand records have deep-finesse analysis, so you can see what might have been done on the hands you played.

We plan to make pre-dealt boards and hand records a regular feature of our Wed/Thur pair events, and hope to extend this feature to all our pair events over the coming weeks and months.

The Sisterhood of the Gold Points

By Barbara Pierce

The team of (from left to right) Sharon Forslund, Barbara Pierce, Myrna Silverman, and Marcia Holland decided to try their luck at the Las Vegas Regional. Myrna only needed 2.9 gold to become a life master, so the team had one goal in mind, getting those 2.9 gold points.



Marcia found out the day before our departure that her airline reservation never went through. So, she bravely took up her husband's offer to fly her up on his homemade plane, in which she had never flown. Marcia said the most difficult part of the flight was seeing the metal plaque on the instrument panel that said the plane "was built by an amateur."

As the rest of the team flew up on US Air, we had visions of Marcia and her husband out the window of our jet in their bright red plane – Marcia with goggles, leather helmet and scarf flying in the wind. Instead we found her at baggage claim with a very relieved look on her face.

We faltered the first day of knockouts. We faltered the second day of knockouts, and then decided to back ourselves up playing Swiss Teams on the 3rd day. Myrna kept saying all 3 days that her tombstone was going to say "She only needed 2.9 more gold."

We did pretty well in Swiss Teams, and started the next day in fourth place out of 55 teams. First round we won, but then were pitted against 3 pros and a gold life master who travel all over the country to compete. As we got together to compare our scores, we were devastated. We had been doing so well, and then to lose by such a huge margin. We just sat there, stunned and pretty demoralized.

Myrna walked over to see the final printout and started screaming like a crazy woman. We all ran over to see what was wrong. Lo and behold, we had come in first in "C," and third in "B" and won 9.3 gold. We went from the lowest low to the highest high.

Myrna, our newest Life Master bought lunch for the team at the Venetian and we all lived happily ever after.

Ain't bridge great!

