

From the Unit President

By Norma Hols

A suggestion/comment box has been placed near the computer at the Quality Inn. All suggestions/comments will be replied to by a board member. This will be done privately, but, of course, we cannot reply to anonymous.

At the February 2007 Unit 448 Board meeting it was decided it was necessary to balance the unit budget for 2007 and not run a deficit. This meant making cuts in the preliminary budget. The Unit Christmas Party hospitality line item was cut by \$500 (we still have enough for a nice, but not elaborate, party). The education budget was cut by \$250 which was taken from the money allotted to the teachers for private advertising, cutting each one from \$100 to \$50 for the year. We also voted to pay the mentor hotel fees from the Education budget discretionary line item.

The Board decided to cancel all Saturday unit games for the time being.

Another item discussed by the Board that may be of interest to the general membership is the question of sectional team games – whether they should be win/loss or victory points. It was suggested that many of the newer players do not understand victory points. **Victory points** (VPs) mean that a team is awarded VPs on a sliding scale listed on the convention card. For instance, on the 20 point IMP (International Master Point) scale used in sectionals, if you win a match by 5, 6, or 7, you get 13 VPs and your opponents get 7 VPs; if you tie, you each get 10 VPs; if the win is by 28 or more, the winner gets all 20 VPs and the losers get none. After the first match, which is a random draw, your team will play teams who have won a similar number of VPs. In the end, it doesn't matter how many matches you win, it is how many VPs you acquire. (A team always gets a fraction of a master point for each win.) In **win/loss**, the team that wins the most matches wins the event, regardless of the size of the wins or losses. This can result in many ties. On the other hand, stronger teams may have an advantage in Victory Points because they sometimes win all the VPs in a match (called a "blitz"). At the last sectional here the teams were stratified by the total number of the team players' master points, instead of by the highest number of match points held by an individual team member. This was done to make the stratification more equitable.

The Unit Board would like to know the how the general membership feels about this subject. Please give us your opinion in the suggestion box. This straw vote will help the tournament chair decide which way to go for the next winter and spring sectionals. For obvious reasons you would have to put your name on it. The fall sectional has one victory-point team game and one win/loss team game. Thanks for your help.

Unit 448 Treasurer's Report:

\$1,626.20 in the checking account
and \$8,136.09 in the savings

Have You Heard

By Doris Anderson

How John Brandon and Kris Motoyoshi stepped right up there to revive Jerry Hensley. Thanks you two for saving a great guy and fellow bridge player.

We have a new editor for the Grand Slammer! Marty Burdick has agreed take on the job. A **BIG THANKS** from all of us to you Marty.

There is a **New Bridge Game** in town. It's **Mike's Game**. The team games will be on the fourth Sunday of every month at 1:00 pm, starting February 25. You may sign up at the Quality Inn where the games will be held or call Mike Coopersmith 466-4404 email pfmcs2@icehouse.net.

Myrla Walty is just back from Kauai. Her traveling companion, Pam Orne, is still there at her time share. Myrla and Pam played just one sanctioned game while there and - are we surprised? Not really. They took first place E/W. Good for you girls! Also, Myrla just became the great grandma of baby boy number five!

Bob and Mary Gellner have been "living it up" in Grass Valley. Welcome back! We are glad to have you home.

The Spokane Winter Sectional was a team effort with many people helping and/or offering to help. Our thanks to all the men who helped Mike with the tables, to all the great cooks who made those wonderful cookies, thanks to the people who helped Kris with beverages, the table decorators, and the people who worked in the kitchen and kept food on the tables. Thanks to Den Motoyoshi and Bob Kautz for keeping the temperature comfortable for us, Virginia Boyles for running errands and let's not forget those who stayed to clean up!

Although our Swiss Team table count was down ten tables from last year it appears we will still make a good profit.

There have been rumors that the Knights of Columbus has been sold. I spoke to the Manager and she informed me that this is not the case. Lori also stated that even if sold, the Knights will not have to be out for eight years.

70% Club Games: Donald Teske & Theresa Barthels, Kay Fergie & Dotti Davis, Sybil Broughton-Lucks & Max Gallotti, Dotti Davis & Kay Fergie, Theresa Barthels & John Bouchard. See Chart at Quality Inn.

Congratulations to new Sectional Master Jim Trail and Ron Caferro and new Regional Master Cristina Gallotti.

GRAND SLAMMER DEADLINES

Feb 15, April 15, June 15,
Aug 15, Oct 15, Dec 15

Dir:South ♠ A Q 7
 Vul:N-S ♥ J 5 4
 ♦ 10 5 4 3 2
 ♣ Q 10
 ♠ 9 8 ♠ K J 10 6 2
 ♥ A 10 8 7 3 ♥ Q 6
 ♦ 8 7 6 ♦ Q J 9
 ♣ K 7 3 ♣ 6 5 4
 ♠ 5 4 3
 ♥ K 9 2
 ♦ A K
 ♣ A J 9 8 2

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
Pass	3 NT	All Pass	1 NT
Opening Lead: ♥7			

In playing a NT hand you are told from day one to "count your tricks." While many such 'rules' of bridge are not absolute, this one certainly is. The following hand was played at a local, Sectional Swiss team match. Last hand of the set and my wife played it. She made her contract for a +600 while the opponents were down 1. This large swing was just enough to win the match by 4 IMPs.

I'm glad my wife was Declarer as I would have played low from dummy to 7H lead, RHO plays the Q (mentally place LHO with 5/6 hearts) & win the K. Playing a spade toward the Q for a finesse (if it wins, I will next finesse in clubs). The spade finesse does NOT work and RHO returns partner's hearts. LHO clears hearts and the J H in dummy wins. I take the club finesse (after all, a priority, there is a 75% chance of one of 2 finesses winning). Too bad, I just went down in a cold contract. At trick 2, Alison (The WIFE) played a club to dummy's Q and then claimed 9 tricks.

IF I COULD JUST HAVE....I'D BE THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD

By Joan Jans-Haupt

Who is this bridge player??? Hint: A member of Unit 448.
 The answer will appear in the next Grand Slammer.

I didn't ask for unreasonable things and truly believed that each time would be the last. It all began when I was about five or six years of age. What I wanted then more than anything was a baby sister. I was an "only" child and thought having a sister would be a lot of fun. She could be my own real live doll to play with. Not only did I ask my mother and Dad, but paraded up and down the sidewalk in front of our house, looking up to the heavens with my hands clasped in prayer shouting "Please God, bring me a baby sister!" If I could have that, I thought, I would be the happiest person in the world. When my red-headed, chubby-cheeked baby sister arrived before I reached the age of seven, I was ecstatic and figured it must pay to ask for what you wanted in life because it sure worked for me! So, when the novelty of a new sister wore off, the next item I just had to have for my happiness was a bicycle. If I could just have that, I said, I truly would be the happiest person in the world.

And so it went...from one thing to the next until I found I was a little like the boy who cried "wolf" one too many times. My parents began to doubt my sincerity and told me so. This new insight led me to be a bit more choosy and discriminating before giving my "happiness" speech. Still, I noticed a longer lapse of time between asking for what I wanted and actually getting it.

I was given piano lessons in the second and third grade, but without a piano at home to practice on, my teachers discouraged me from continuing the lessons. So, for the next five years, I gave my "If I could just have my own piano, I would be the happiest girl in the world" speech. When I had about given up hope, I was surprised and delighted when one day upon arriving home from school, I found a beautiful, old, mahogany upright piano sitting in the living room. My joy was unparalleled! I decided, then and there it would be the last time I would make my "happiness" speech. It had taken my parents five years of hard work and savings to fulfill my wish for happiness. I was beginning to get the picture. I began to realize just how lucky I was to have such loving, caring parents and finally understood that having them as my parents made me the happiest girl in the world.

During the game—Do's and Don'ts

ALERT: A strange thing may happen to surprise you during your first duplicate game. Your opponent may say the word "Alert" and pull the Alert card from the bidding box AFTER his partner makes what seems like a perfectly normal bid. This Alert is to let you know that his pard's last bid was conventional, not natural. You or your partner (whoever is next to call) may ask the Alerter what it means by saying "Please explain." While we don't Alert conventions like Blackwood, Stayman, Gerber and takeout doubles, we do Alert less commonly used conventions. You are entitled to know what these bids mean, and the Alert gives you the opportunity to ask.

Announcements: Bridge players are great individualists. They all have their favorite style, so some very common bids can have very different meanings. For easy convenience, we just use an announcement in these cases. If you open a short club (fewer than 3 cards) or open 1♣ and it is forcing for one round, your partner should announce, "May be short."

Face-down lead: ACBL has adopted the **rule** of making the opening lead face down in a duplicate game. Unauthorized information and real damage may have occurred if the wrong player makes the opening lead. Normal result on the board may now be impossible to achieve and may affect the other pairs and they may be hurt through no fault of their own.

Quality Inn 110 E 4th Ave. 838.6101 Spokane WA
Masonic Lodge, 1122 18th Ave, Lewiston
Spokane Valley Com. Ctr 10814 E Broadway
Stookey's 211 W. D Street Moscow ID.
Paulter Sr Ctr 549 5th. St. Clarkston WA



CLUB & UNIT
 INFORMATION



UNIT CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES 2007

Quality Inn,, 110 E 4th Avenue

FOR PARTNERSHIPS CALL:

- [1] Quality Inn Kay Fergie 509/838.3270
- [2] Quality Inn Dick Yager 509/998-7390
- [3] Quality Inn Kris Motoyoshi 509/466.4249
- [4] Quality Inn Phyllis Ewing 509/448.2526
- [5] Quality Inn Mike CooperSmith 466-4404
- [6] Spokane Valley Brenda Simpson 509/926.6973
- [7] Masonic Lodge Robert Boyer 208/743.3855
- [9] Paulter Sr Ctr Dave Schwartz 208/743.2143
- [10] Stookey's Pete Pluhta 509/334.3245
- [11] Quality Inn David Rottmayer 509/533-9671

MONDAYS:

- 10:00 [1] Non Life Master (Kay's Games)
- 6:30 [2] Open Game (Magie's Club)

TUESDAYS:

- 11:00 [2] Open Game (Magie's Club)
- 11:00 [6] Open Handicap (BWB)
- 6:30 [3] Open Game (Sam's BC)
- 7:15 [10] Open Game

WEDNESDAYS:

- 12:30 [4] Open Game (Spokane BC)
- 6:30 [5] 0-100 MP Game (Sam's BC)

THURSDAYS:

- 12:30 [3] Open Game (Sam's BC)
- 1:00 [9] Open Game (Lewiston BC)
- 6:00 [6] Open Game (BWB)

FRIDAYS:

- 11:00 [2] Open Game (Maggie's Club)

SATURDAYS:

- 10:30 [7] Non Sanctioned Invitational Game
- 12:30 [1] Open Game (Kay's Games)

SUNDAYS:

- 1:00 [5] Last Sunday of Every Month TEAM GAME
- [11] Once a Month various dates **Unit Champ Games**

March 18, 1:00 & 5:00 Two Session Pairs—
 TWO SECTIONS Open & 0-300
AWARDS GAME POTLUCK BETWEEN SESSIONS

April 22, 1:00 PM One Session Pairs—
 TWO SECTIONS Open & 0-300

May 20, 1:00 & 5:00 Two Session **TEAM**
 Potluck between sessions

June 3, 5:00 PM One Session Pairs—
 TWO SECTIONS Open & 0-300

July **NO UNIT GAME**

August 5, 5:00 PM One Session Pairs—
 TWO SECTIONS Open & 0-300

September 9 1:00 NAP Qualifying,
 Approx 4:00 **ELECTIONS**,
 5:00 Unit Game Pairs

October 21, 1: & 5: Two Session Pairs—
 TWO SECTIONS Open & 0-300

November 11, 1:00 PM One Session Pairs
CHARITY GAME —
 TWO SECTIONS Open & 0-300

December 9 Christmas Unit Celebration,
 Mukogawa/Ft Wright

NEW MEMBERS JAN-FEB

Youth: Sally Alex, Boel Balmes, Katrina Bech, Cristina Burlacu, Cameron Dolsby, Usamah El-Barkkush, Maureen Ferries, Carson Ferries, Saran Genung, Colby Jarman, Cody Lorenz, Donovan Meinzinger, Jon Miller, Kinz Morris, Theodore Newell, Jessica Nichols, Romany Redman, Kaitie Twiggs, Travis Wichtendahl

Adult: Carol Ford, Bill Foster, Sue Foster, B J Kolkman, Barb Strole, Barbara Williams, Mary Bestick, Bob Cox, Chris Kent, Valerie Mcllroy

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS 2nd Qtr 2007

Kay's Club Mon AM	May 21
Maggie's Mon PM	April 16
Bridge w Brenda Tues	June 19
Maggie's Tues AM	April 22
Sam's BC Tues PM	April 17
Spokane Bridge Club	May 16
Sam's BC Wed PM	May 9
Sam's BC Thur AFT	April 19
Bridge w Brenda Thurs	June 24
Maggie's Fri AM	April 18

Upcoming WC STaC games

May 8	Maggie's Games Tues am
May 8	Sam's BC Tues PM
May 9	Sam's BC Wed PM
May 10	Sam's BC Thurs Aft
May 12	Kay's Club Sat Aft

**NEW LEVELS OF ACHIEVEMENT
 JAN-FEB**

Sectional (50-100)
Jim Trail, Ron Caferro

Regional (100-200)
Cris Gallotti



Editor: Kris Motoyoshi
 1524 E Beacon Ln
 Spokane WA 99217
 509/466-4249
 dkmoto@mindspring.com

ACBL Website acbl.org
 District 19 Website dl9.org
 Unit 448 Website spokanebridge.com

Next Unit Game: Quality Inn, 110 E 4th Avenue
 March 18, Two Sessions Awards Game 1:00 & 5:00
 Two Sections: Open and 0-300

2007 Unit Board

President: Norma Hols 535.0772
Vice President: Sybil Broughton -Luck 624-5054
Secretary: Keri Malone 328.2744
Treasurer: Myrla Walty 533.0637
Hospitality: JoAnn Brown 465.8218
Membership: Jerry Hensley 926.8570
Tournament: Doris Anderson 465.3960
 Fred Gilbert 464.3415
 Eloise Whitehead 566.0800
 Max Gallotti 835.4028
 Kathy O'Malley 509/332.8226
 Bob Gellner 464.4412

Recorder: Donna Dechenne 327.7737
 Ethics: Gary Singer 993.7279
 Unit Game Dir.: David Rottmayer 533.9671
 Ed. Liaison: Brenda Simpson 926.6973
 Elec. Contact: Kris Motoyoshi 466.4249
 Grand Slammer: Marty Burdick 255.9632

**SPOKANE LILAC SECTIONAL
 JUNE 29, 30, JULY 1, 2007
 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Open Events:

Friday, June 29
 1:00 Stratified Pairs, One Session
 7:00 Stratified Pairs, One Session

Saturday, June 30
 1:00 Stratified Pairs, 1st Session
 7:00 Stratified Pairs, 2nd Session

Sunday, July 1
 10:00 and TAB Stratified Swiss
 Teams, Two Sessions

Stratum: 0-500, 500-1500; 1500 +

PARTNERSHIPS OPEN EVENTS:
 Donna Carter
donna_spokane@msn.com
 509/325.9551

I/N Events:
(Intermediate Newcomer)

Friday, February 9
 1:00 Stratified Pairs, One Session

Saturday, February 10
 1:00 Stratified Pairs, One Session

1:00 0-5 MP Pairs
One Session FREE PLAY

Stratum: 0-10; 10-50; 50-100
 \$5.00 per session
 Canadian dollar at par

PARTNERSHIPS:
 I/N Events: Keri Malone
 509.328.2744 pixpom@comcast

NEW GAME IN TOWN:

Practice your skills in a once a month
 team game.
 Last Sunday of every month 1:00
 PM

DIRECTOR: MIKE COOPERSMITH
Pfmcs2@icehouse.net or 466.4404

February 25—Youth Fund
 March 25—Club Championship
 April 29—Charity Game
 May 27—Club Championship
 June 24
 July 29
 August 26—Club Championship
 Sept 30
 October 28
 November 25—Club Championship
 December 30

You're invited
 to attend. . .



Tournament Chair:
Doris Anderson 509.465.3960 bud4doris@msn.com
 Tournament Director: Matt Koltnow
 Tournament Equipment: Mike Coopersmith
 Tournament Greeter: Pat Owens
 Sanction #: S0706066