

# THE KIBITZER

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As another year winds up I have been reflecting on the spirit of volunteerism in our unit. Bridge in Calgary would not be the same without the people who give of their time and energy with the countless small and large jobs we need done. I want to thank the dozens of people who do these endless and usually thankless tasks.

Many of our special events use pre-dealt boards with hand records. We have asked members to provide cookies and candy at our sectionals. We have people who run errands and deliveries, people who make calls, people who type. You come to set up tables before tournaments, you think about the way things should be and give of your energy to provide input to the board. Many of you have served on the board, and many indicate they will when their time is such that they can give it proper consideration.

We have special volunteers, like Al Simon who has been our caddy master, or like Marj Andrukow who has helped with formatting the Kibitzers and the Phone Lists. Our club owners and directors give lots of extra time and energy to ensuring that bridge is the best they can help it be - there is a lot more in it for them than the buck they may be able to make from the game, and their pride in their product extends to all players' benefit. Maxine Webb is working very hard with a whole bunch of people to ensure that we throw yet another regional to be proud of this summer.

It seems there is always more to be done than our resources allow: sometimes it seems that the needs aren't being met. At those times it is important to remember what is being done, and to be thankful for the people who do it. It takes a lot of work to make bridge happen, and it simply wouldn't without your input and assistance.

Thank you all for helping make this a successful year in our unit.

Jacky Ross

## 99'ERS SECTIONAL

A 99-ers Sectional will be held at the Martinique Bridge Studio on the July long weekend (June 29 - July 1). Gord and Delores will have the promotional material out well in advance, or you can call them for details.

Come on out - use this tournament as your spring-board into the Regional!

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### ***Memo to: Jacky Ross***

*This year there's more going on in July than the Calgary Stampede - there's the World Famous Calgary WHITE HAT REGIONAL.*

*We're really pleased to be able to host a regional in Calgary, providing the opportunity for Calgarians to win those elusive red and gold points, and to play in top-notch competition while doing so - right here in the old home town. (It only happens every three years!)*

*The Site is the Calgary Convention Centre - July 15-21. There's something for everyone - from knockouts, to midnight games, to seniors events and even a special "tournament within a tournament" for future masters.*

*The tournament committee, ably headed by Maxine Webb, is already hard at work - lining up panels, giveaways, door prizes, entertainment and dancing. However, they do need your help in order to provide the hospitality for which Calgary is famous. If you would like to help out by donating money or prizes, please call Dorothy Brayford at 281-9772 (she's in the collection business).*

*See you in July!!*

***Linda Thierman***

## FINANCIAL REPORT

**Statement of Receipts and Disbursements July 1, 1990 to February 28, 1991**

## RECEIPTS

Sectional Revenue	\$ 18395.99	
Dues, Interest, Election	2141.22	
Special Events	<u>467.55</u>	\$ 21004.76

## DISBURSEMENTS

Sectional Expense	13012.00	
Kibitzer(2 issues)	1204.63	
Advances	425.00	
Office, Bank Charges, Dues	1133.06	
Subsidies & Special Events	<u>403.00</u>	<u>(16177.69)</u>

EXCESS RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 4827.07
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Cash: Beginning of Period	<u>6071.43</u>
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CASH: END OF PERIOD \$ 10898.50

Approximate profit March Sectional 850.00

Approximate balance:      \$ 11748.50

## ELECTIONS AND ELECTION PARTY

There are five retiring members of the Board of Directors to be replaced this year. They are Heather Givritz, Maxine Webb, Brian Saville, Marlene Fuller and Barbara Webster (who replaced Doug Mann on his resignation).

Enclosed with this issue of the Kibitzer is your ballot and return envelope. Please vote for up to five people. You may mail your ballot, or drop it off in the Ballot Boxes which will be found at The Bow River Bridge Club, The Martinique Bridge Studio, and the Canmar Bridge Club.

The Election Party this year is on Saturday, May 4th, at the Tri-Wood Community Centre at 2244 Chicou

timi Drive N.W. (near 14th Street and Northmount Drive). Bridge starts at 5:00, followed by a wonderful dinner and then the Annual General Meeting. A dance will start immediately afterwards. Tickets to the whole event are \$20.00, bridge only is \$6.00. The Bow River Bridge Club has tickets, as do all members of the Unit Board. If you like you can call Brian Saville at 239-2768 to make reservations or to arrange the pick up of tickets.

This party is always enjoyed by all who attend. We would like to see all our members come out and participate in the Annual General Meeting (which will start around 9:00). Put on your dancing duds and come on out!

## WHERE DOES IT GO?

### SEVEN DOLLARS!!!

I bet you want to know where your money goes. Doesn't everyone? A (rough) breakdown of costs from the last tournament is given here:

Sanction fee	\$ .55
Admin costs (surcharges, phone, hand records, fees, US dollar conversion)	.28
Table rental	.75
Caddies	.30
Hall Rental	.75
Advertising	.33
Directors - salary	1.00
Directors - hotel, per diem	1.05
Hospitality and Dinner	.75
Trophies and Prizes	.08
<u>Profit</u>	<u>1.06</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 7.00</b>

Keeping fees as low as they were would have led to a loss. The sandwich meal between sessions at the Swiss was subsidized only \$.14, and because of volunteer donations of cookies and the like the hospitality subsidy is very low.

Increasing the post-game hospitality, returning to catering hot meals during the Swiss Teams, purchas-

ing cookies and candies for the hospitality desk, and upping the quality of trophies and prizes will all affect the profit levels of tournaments.

A higher turnout would lower most expenses, except Sanction Fees and Table Rental, which are based on table counts. Some costs are beyond control - director's and sanction fees are based on US dollars, so the exchange rate can affect the amounts paid.

Each of the four tournaments has its own nature. There are extra advertising costs in March, as the flyers are mailed separately from the Kibitzer. In Banff most people participate in the buffet, which is subsidized quite heavily. The Labour Day sectional has the wildest table count swings depending exactly on when it occurs and the weather. The January sectional is the most consistent for turnout and costs.

The profits from Sectionals go into general revenue and pay for the Kibitzer, the election, and losses incurred at the Election Party, if any. These funds also pay for any subsidies made available each year to players going on in special events, as special events only pay for themselves and are not profitable any more.

With care and lots of hard work your tournament committees will be able to continue to provide top notch sectionals without an increase in fees in the immediate future.

## PHONE LIST CHANGES

This article was missed in the last issue. Please note that Barbara Webster is now handling the membership list, and check her new number below.

### Changes and Additions to the Phone List:

Mrs Clyde Archer	256-5940	Sylvia Nazar	256-3069
Margaret Fenton	946-5781	Jo Peterson	247-0119
Ans Joghems	240-9093	Murray Peterson	247-0119
Geraldine Johnson	246-8599	Jacky Ross	276-6328
Joe Kerger	295-3394	Graham Townend	276-6328
Earl Knipfel	242-2730	Barbara Webster	276-7157
Stan Matheson	276-7157	Debby Wood	238-1444
Terry Nazar	256-3069		

## HOW TO USE THE PARTNERSHIP DESK

Let us know as soon as possible that you are looking.

3 days before - odds of a match - 99.99%

3 minutes before - odds of a match - 50%

Come early on the day of the event and let us know where to find you.

Let us know if you've found your own partner.

Otherwise we'll still be trying to fix you up.

Let us put your name on the list.

Our memories are terrible.

Be flexible.

Alex Knox and I have had fun working on the Partnership Desk but we've found that people have a lot of misconceptions about what we can do.

### WHAT THE PARTNERSHIP DESK DOES

If you want to play in the bridge tournament but haven't arranged a partner, come down and see us. Despite our policy of no guarantees, 95% of those who use our services are matched up. The last person to register is the least likely to be matched up while the first person to register will not only be matched but the most likely to be matched compatibly.

We act as a clearing house for people looking for partners. Our mandate is **frustrating** as we can **not** seek out perfect partners or even guarantee partners.

Since most people arrange for their own partners, only a few people use the Partnership Desk. Typically, we match 2 to 8 people for a pairs event, more for Swiss Teams (as it is harder to arrange a foursome than a twosome).

We keep an updated list of people looking for partners for each event and introduce people on the list to each other, trying to make likely combinations. When we've matched up all but two people looking, those two will have to play together, if they want to play - even if one

is a Novice and the other is a Life Master. The Novice will be unable to play in the Novice game and the Life Master will be unable to play esoteric conventions: this illustrates the importance of registering early.

Rarely can we match up people earlier than the day of the game, since people looking for partners tend to only let us know then. This makes it hard for someone who is looking for a partner for the next day and doesn't want to show up if one can't be found. We can't phone because by the time we know of someone looking it's either too late to make it by game time, or we have someone else looking who is right there. Matching up two people on the spot is a lot more practical than dragging someone away from home and ending up with a player, already there, partnerless.

Although we cannot guarantee partners, we do our best to find them. If, at game time, all but one person has been matched up, then we make one final attempt at matching that person up by consulting with the directors. Directors are often willing to help find and convince a kibitzer to play.

**Barabara Webster**

## HAVE A GOOD GAME, MADDIE

When I first met Maddie, she already belonged among the best bridge players in Western Canada. Always dressed very elegantly, she was present at the bridge table at almost every club game, sectional and regional tournament. She had her favourite partners, five or six people, some of them quite vocal, but I never heard her raise her voice. When her children grew out of their teens she opened a bridge studio and from that time until her ill health forced her to the hospital, she played bridge twice a day. I have never known anybody who loved the game more than Maddie McGill did.

She told us this story herself: In earlier years, when her children were still young she had to stay home during the day. But in the evenings she and her husband George alternated in baby sitting and Maddie had three to four opportunities a week to play. Even so, when her birthday came she usually asked as a birthday present an extra chance to go out and play bridge. Once Maddie, with her partner, went to Amsterdam to participate in the Bridge Olympiad. On the way to the Continent they spent a couple of days in London, England and as sightseeing Maddie visited only one place - the famous London bridge club.

Her achievements in the game were numerous. Besides valuable regional tournaments, she won countless sectional trophies and club championships. Nothing says more about her results than years after she had to give up the game she is still among the top five master-point holder in Alberta.

Maddie McGill has now departed to the utmost event. Let's hope that she will find peace and satisfaction in what is waiting for her there.

John Lang

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It is with regret that the unit advises its members of the passing of Maddie McGill on January 16, 1991. We thank John for his contribution to the Kibitzer.

## OH, THOSE HESITATION BLUES!

After a skip bid warning of any sort (including the very brief "Skip!") the next player in rotation must hesitate before making the next call. They must appear to be studying their hand during the period of hesitation.

Okay, okay, we've been over this a thousand times.

The reason for the hesitation is to avoid any unauthorized information being given at the table. It allows both lefty and opposite hand opponent time to think about any problems which the skip bid may have caused, without allowing the other two access to information about who has the problem.

To not hesitate is unethical, illegal and just plain bad mannered.

So, why do the Directors, Recorder, the Unit President, and the Chairman of Conduct and Ethics constantly hear about the shotgun passes? It is beyond belief that you people are all bringing that little extra to the table (cheating, that is). It is hard to believe that you people are all in ignorance of the skip bid warning and what it means. It is not so hard to believe that you are all concentrating on your own cards that you just "forget".

The shotgun pass is never acceptable after any bid, and especially after a skipped bid. It is a good idea to hesitate after all skip bids, and perfectly legal and ethical to do so, whether or not a warning is given. It is a bad idea to pass quickly in the same situation.

So let's get it together. We are sick to death of hearing "I think so-and-so cheats", or "I don't think they would have bid that way without the shotgun" or whatever. Your reputation is at stake, over a game yet. Come on - let's just play the game with a certain amount of class and dignity, and not use this kind of coffee-housing any more.

Got it??

## **SPRING SECTIONAL RESULTS**

The Kibitzer staff (!) has neglected to print the results of Sectionals in recent issues. Our apologies to the offended, and promises for a brighter tomorrow.

Congratulations to the winners at the March tournament:

### **IMP Pairs:**

Sheila Evans, Barbara Bond

### **Non Master Stratified Pairs**

#### **Flight A:**

Floyd and Donna Derkat, Edmonton

#### **Flight B:**

Andrew Bower, Perry Chan

#### **Flight C:**

Dan Bertrand, Clarende Duby

### **Master Pairs:**

Al Simon, Don Gladman

### **Open Pairs:**

Gladys Minor, Pat Wesley

### **Open Consolation:**

Joan and Bob Clark

### **Novice, Saturday afternoon:**

Bob and Diane Clements

### **Novice, Saturday evening:**

Bob and Diane Clements

### **Swiss Teams:**

Doug and Lorna Deschner, Charlie and Mary Lamb, Red Deer