

THE KIBITZER

THE CALGARY DUPLICATE BRIDGE ASSOCIATION UNIT 390



APRIL 2011

Editors: Judith and Nicholas Gartaganis

President's Message - April 2011

Since my last message in September 2010, we have had six board meetings, three sectionals, and one Special Meeting on Bylaws. It has been a busy time!

Here are some of the highlights:

As per the mandate from the membership at last year's AGM held May 8, 2010, the 2005 Bylaws were filed with the registry office and included the changes approved at the Special General Meeting held November 25, 2010. A name change was also filed at Alberta Registries and, as of February 23, 2011, our name is officially The Calgary Duplicate Bridge Association UNIT 390.

Next, our intention is to become compliant with ACBL regulations. We will vote on the proposed Bylaws to make this happen at the AGM scheduled to take place May 14, 2011. Thanks to Martin McDonald, Margaret Cooke and Vice President Don Basarsky for taking on this project.

An anonymous \$500 donation was given to Unit 390, on the condition it be used for new member initiatives. Thanks to Jan McLeod for managing this wonderful gift on the Unit's behalf.

Calgary has been awarded the CBF floating Regional and I would like to thank Frank Ayer for agreeing to serve as chair. The tournament is scheduled for January 2013.

We, the Board, have enhanced the privacy policy, a copy of which has been filed on our website. Thank you to Frank Kelton for overseeing this.

The Board has set aside \$1,000 dollars toward maintaining the Library. This money will be used to purchase more book cases to house various donations

from current and former members.

Calgary will be one of the designated sites for the upcoming GNT. The entire event will be played electronically on BBO (Bridge Base Online). Of course, in return for reduced travel costs, participants will need to bring their own computers. The competition will take place on May 6th and 7th, 2011. Thanks to Melissa Martin, Special Events Co-ordinator, for taking on this challenging task. The Unit is also indebted to Marilyn and Dave Swadron, for sharing their computer savvy.

[President's message continues on Page 2]

Inside This Issue...

Novice Night Turns One	2
2011 Canadian Bridge Championships	2
AGM Scheduled for May 14	3
AGM Special Resolution	3
A Word from Your Unit Recorder	4
2012 Calgary Regional Chairs Named	4
Partscore Delight	5
2010 Mentorship Program Wrap-Up	6
Bridge Lessons Abound	6
Special Events	7
2010 Alberta Sectionals Race	7
Bridge in Havana	8
From The Membership Desk	9-10
Club Corner	10-12
Open Unit Game on May 28 th	12
Partnership GPs	13
2010 Mini-McKenney Winners	14
2010 Ace of Clubs Winners	14
Ethical Behaviour and Table Feel: A Retrospective	15
Shuffle, Deal and Play	16
Mike Lawrence is Coming to Calgary	17

THE KIBITZER

President's Message (continued)

Did you notice the new boards and cards at our last Sectional tournament? Thanks to Steve Lawrence for taking on the project to upgrade our bridge equipment.

We took advantage of the ACBL advertising policy to advertise the "Bid and Play" on Wednesday evenings. The ACBL paid the first \$750 (75%) and the District contributed (25%), so this promotion was virtually no cost to the Unit. This is a learning environment for new bridge players. A big thank you goes out to Carol Lee Bellum and Ed Faichuk for initiating this project and for their continuing efforts. Thanks also to Marilyn and Murray Haggins for their assistance.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all the Board members for their continuing contributions and efforts in enhancing the game of bridge in Calgary.

Additionally, thanks to all the club owners for providing us with endless opportunities to play the game we love. Finally, thanks to the many tournament volunteers whose involvement makes our games run smoothly. We could not do it without you!

Respectfully,

*Jim Murphy
President*

Novice Night Turns One!

by Carol Lee Bellam

One year ago, on April 28, we launched an evening program where beginners could come to play duplicate bridge while getting lots of help with their bidding, declarer play and defence. Since then, we have begun offering a Novice game on the same evening.

A large number of students come regularly on Wednesday evenings for Novice Night. They can choose to play in either the Novice game (approximately 16-18 boards) or the "Supervised Bid and Play" session where they can get help when they need it. Every Wednesday evening, there are four volunteers on hand to supervise the game and provide assistance to participants. At 7:00 p.m., there is always a "Tip of the Day" mini-lesson.

We have been most fortunate in that about 30 bridge players have volunteered to help out with Bid and Play. We appreciate their dedication to our novices. We would also like to thank the Martinique Bridge Club for supporting this Novice Evening.

If you know people who play social bridge and would like a gentle introduction to duplicate bridge, this is the perfect opportunity. If you would like to bring a friend who is just beginning, and play with him/her, that is also encouraged.

This program is definitely growing and everyone involved is excited about the enthusiasm of the participants and the progress they are making.

2011 CANADIAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS MAY 21 - 28, 2011

How to Enter

Entry to the major team events is now closed. But it's not too late to plan to attend! No pre-registration is required for the four events listed below. Simply show up and purchase your entry prior to start time. For more information, visit the CBF website at <http://www.cbf.ca> or send email to can.bridge.fed@sasktel.net

Event Details

Events not requiring pre-qualification

- **CSTC - Canadian Senior Team Championship**
Wednesday, May 25 - Saturday, May 28, 2011 (4-day event)
- **CIPC - Canadian IMP Pairs Championship**
Thursday, May 26, 2011, 10:00 am & 3:30 pm (2 sessions)
- **Swiss Teams**
Saturday, May 28, 2011, 10:00 am & 3:30 pm (2 sessions)

Event requiring club round qualification

- **COPC - Canadian Open Pairs Championship**
Friday, May 27 and Saturday, May 28, 2011 (2-day event)
2011 COPC champions receive a \$2,000 cash prize
The pair finishing second receives a \$1,000 cash prize.

THE KIBITZER

Annual General Meeting

The Calgary Duplicate Bridge Association UNIT 390

When: Saturday, May 14, 2011
Where: Martinique Bridge Club
Time: Meeting: 5:00 pm
Dinner: 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Pairs game: 7:30 pm

- Free food if you attend the meeting
- No card fees if you attend the meeting
- Unit championship points

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome and Introduction
3. Confirmation of Quorum
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes from 2010 AGM
6. President's Report
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Appointment of Auditor for 2011/2012
9. Special Resolution on Unit Bylaws - Don Basarsky
10. Presentation of Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney Awards - Jim Murphy, Unit President
11. Election of Directors - Don Basarsky
12. Questions from the floor
13. Adjournment

All noted times are tentative based on the level of discussion occurring at the meeting.

If you are planning to attend, please RSVP by May 12th to Melissa Martin at 403-217-3022 or by email at 390events@acblunit390.org.

An attendance estimate is needed to finalize the catering arrangements.

AGM Special Resolution

Open letter to all members of The Calgary Duplicate Bridge Association ACBL UNIT 390:

At our AGM on May 14, 2011 you will be asked to approve a new set of Bylaws. You graciously approved the 2005 Bylaws (unanimously) at the 2010 AGM to enable us to remain a viable and active Society.

In a study of the history of our unit, it became evident that the 2001 Bylaws, adopted and amended in 2005, had been developed to meet the requirements of the Province of Alberta Societies Act.

To our knowledge, these Bylaws were never registered with the ACBL. In conversation with the legal representatives of the ACBL, it became very evident that UNIT 390 was not in compliance with ACBL standards and requirements.

As a result, we have taken the SAMPLE UNIT BOARD BYLAWS document from the ACBL website and made it relevant to our Unit. As you go through the Bylaws you will note that most of the document shows up in black ink and is the ACBL's language. The verbiage we have added to ensure it meets the needs of UNIT 390 has been typed in red.

[The Bylaws are available on the unit website at www.acblunit390.org/web_documents/cdba_unit_bylaws_2011-05_proposed.pdf - Editors]

These revised Bylaws have been developed with the assistance of Martin McDonald and Margaret Cooke, and are now compliant with both the ACBL standards and the Societies Act.

A Special Resolution will be presented at the 2011 AGM which, provided quorum requirements are met, will require 75% approval from the membership in attendance to replace the 2005 Bylaws. We would appreciate if you would take the time to review the Bylaws and to contact Don Basarsky at 403-242-4226, or by e-mail at 390vicepres@acblunit390.org with any questions, comments or concerns prior to May 14th. We also request that you bring your copy of the Bylaws to the meeting to enable us to control printing costs.

We look forward to seeing you at the May 14th AGM.

Sincerely,

Don Basarsky

Vice-President of the Calgary Duplicate Bridge Association ACBL UNIT 390



THE KIBITZER

A Word from Your Unit Recorder

by Allan Simon

A few years ago I was asked by the Unit Board to serve as your Recorder. I accepted without fully understanding the job description and I have since learned that most other bridge players (including those who appointed me!) are in the same boat. But I have done some on-the-job learning and I thought people might be interested in what a Recorder actually does. The idea behind the office of Recorder is a very sound one.

Occasionally, it happens that a player or a pair makes an apparently unsound or astonishing bid or play that turns out very well. For example, one player may make what appears to be a big overbid, but his or her partner compensates by underbidding. Or perhaps a player makes a very unusual opening lead that turns out very well.

The victims of such an unusual but apparently lucky decision really had no recourse. It is not only very rude to accuse someone of cheating - it is actually against ACBL regulations. Sometimes, the aggrieved party would tell other people about the incident, tarnishing the reputation of their opponents. Yet there might well be an innocent explanation, ranging from pure luck to sound logic.

This is where the Recorder comes in. If you feel opponents have done something "fishy", you can get in touch with me. I will listen to the facts and, if indeed the actions seem questionable, I will open a file on the "offenders". If necessary, I will talk to the other parties and get their side of the story. Most importantly, I will be in a good position to judge if a player or pair is being unethical, because if I receive multiple complaints I can recognize a pattern and, in extreme cases, I could approach the Unit to recommend sanctions against the offenders (this has never happened under my watch).

I can also deal with complaints about minor issues of bad conduct. If an opponent irritates you by gloating excessively, or refusing to acknowledge your friendly greeting, you can't really call the Director to say "so and so is being unpleasant". But a Recorder can enter such minor incidents in a file and, again, if there is a pattern of poor conduct, I will talk to the offenders.

Of course if the offense is more serious - for instance, foul language - you should call the Director immediately.

But - and this is a big BUT - my jurisdiction only applies to events sanctioned by the Unit, specifically sectionals and a few other special games. Any problems you encounter at a club are the business of the club alone. If you think someone has wronged you at a club game, your only recourse is to talk to the director, preferably in private after the game. The club director or owner will make a decision as he or she sees fit.



2012 Calgary Regional

by Ken Scott

Unit 390 members Marilyn and Murray Haggins have volunteered to chair the 2012 Calgary Regional tournament. When asked for a comment, President Jim Murphy said "That's terrific! We're very fortunate to have them -- they're very passionate about our game; they're great teachers with excellent organizational skills; and they constantly give back to the bridge community". Marilyn and Murray will soon begin enlisting volunteers to join their Organizing Committee. Future Masters, Hospitality, Welcome Desk, Partnerships, Publicity, Photography ... no matter where your interests lie, you can play a role. So why not join the Haggins to help create a fun and memorable White Hat Regional. And reserve the dates on your calendar - August 6 through 12, 2012 at the Radisson.



THE KIBITZER

Partscore Delight

by Judith and Nicholas Gartaganis

Slams and game contracts get all the glory, but even partscores can generate elegant end positions and translate into valuable IMPs or matchpoints.

Dealer: West
Vulnerable: N/S
Contract: 3♣
Lead: ♥K

♠ 1092
♥ Q85
♦ K87654
♣ 3



♠ AK3
♥ 10974
♦ --
♣ AKQJ104

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
1♠	Pass	1NT	2♣
2♥	Pass	2♠	3♣
All Pass			

West leads the ♥K and continues with the ♥A and the ♥2. East ruffs and returns the ♦Q. You ruff perforce and pull trumps (West follows twice). It looks as though you have two more inescapable losers and no squeeze is readily apparent. However, if you choose to play all your trumps and East holds one of the spade honours (Q or J), the opponents will be caught in a deadly vise that crushes the defence.

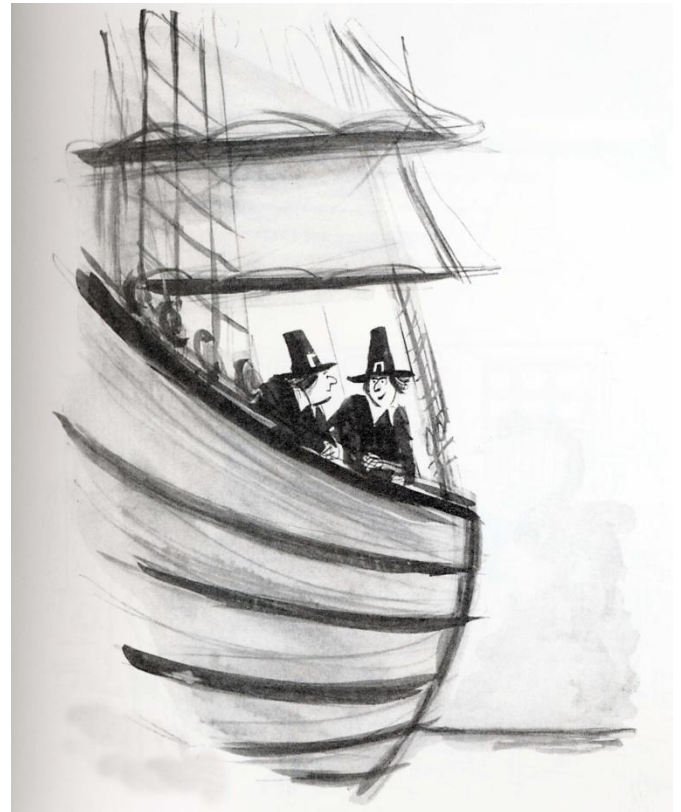
In the four-card end position you hold ♠AK4 ♥10 and dummy has ♠1092 ♦K. What does West retain? He must keep the ♥J and three spades, so is forced to jettison the ♦A. At this point you cash the ♠A and the spotlight shines on East who is down to ♠Hx ♦Qx. If he plays a small spade you can exit with a small spade. East will have to return a diamond and you can discard your losing heart. Alternatively, if East gets rid of his spade honour under your ♠A, you can change strategies by exiting a heart. West wins and is endplayed into leading away from his spade honour.

The full deal:

♠ 1092		♠ J6
♥ Q85		♥ 63
♦ K87654		♦ QJ1032
♣ 3		♣ 9865
♠ Q8754		
♥ AKJ2		
♦ A9		
♣ 72		

♠ AK3	
♥ 10974	
♦ --	
♣ AKQJ104	

Sharp-eyed readers will note that the ♠9 is not relevant to the play unless East holds specifically ♠QJ.



"I'm hoping I'll get to play all those wacky conventions I've invented."

THE KIBITZER

2010 Mentorship Program Wrap-Up

The feedback on the 2010 Mentorship Program has been very positive. The Mentees were very excited about all the help they received and many Mentors expressed pleasure at having assisted less experienced players.

This year 150 bridge players participated in the Mentorship Program. Our junior bridge players are getting stronger and more confident and this is really exciting for Unit 390.

An organizational meeting was held on April 15 at the Martinique to discuss next year's program. All bridge players were invited to give their input. At this point, we are still restricting the points of Mentees to 500 and under. It is the feeling of the Mentorship Committee that bridge players with over 500 points have the confidence to approach better players for some games. In contrast, beginners do not know whom to approach and are often reluctant to ask more advanced players for a game.

Applications for the Mentorship Program will be in the clubs during the first week in May and the deadline for applications is June 30.

We wish to thank all the Mentors who gave their time to the program. We hope that players will continue to volunteer to help novices, beginners and near-intermediate players. We suggest that, if someone approaches you to be his or her Mentor, you indicate that pairings will be left to the Mentorship Committee. However, be sure to mention that the Committee, if informed, will take into consideration the aspiring player's desire to be matched with you.

Carol Lee Bellam
Diane Campbell

PS from Carol Lee: The work that Diane Campbell has done for the mentorship program has been outstanding.

Bridge Lessons in Unit 390

by Carol Lee Bellam

There are many sets of bridge lessons taking place within the Unit.

Concluded Programs:

- Ken Scott and Karen Mitchell offered two sets of beginner lessons. They have also volunteered at the Bid and Play sessions on Wednesday evenings.
- Jan MacLeod gave a set of lessons that dealt with conventions for beginners. Jan also supported the Bid and Play program as well as bringing her students out to participate.
- Dan Bertrand offered two sets of lessons this year, one on Defence and the other on Declarer Play. Both were well attended.
- Carol Lee Bellam presented two sets of lessons on Defence for Beginners. In addition, she provided free lessons at the North Ladies Bridge Club on specific topics. Watch for more free lessons to take place during the month of May.

Upcoming Opportunities:

- In May, Carol Lee Bellam will be offering lessons for Beginner-Plus players on "Conventions You Should Know".
- Dan Bertrand and Carol Lee Bellam will be holding a four-week course on "2 Over 1" in July.

The Martinique Bridge Club deserves special recognition for providing space for lessons at no charge as well as free coffee for all participants.



THE KIBITZER

Special Events

by Melissa Martin, Special Events Coordinator

The ACBL holds two 'grass roots' events annually. The NAP championship is held at the NABC each spring and the GNT championship is held at the NABC each summer.

GNT Events

What are GNTs? Many of you may be wondering what all of the email on the subject of 'GNT Practice' is about. Let's start with an explanation of what the GNT is.

The North American final of the Grand National Team Championship (GNT) is played annually at the summer NABC. This year, Canada will proudly host this event in Toronto on July 21-31.

The basic idea is to compete for a slot at the championships beginning at the club level. This grass roots event is open to any team of ACBL members. Qualifying events begin in the fall of each year at local clubs. There are four levels of competition so there is a level right for you! Why not try to participate in a team qualifier next year?

Something exciting and truly special is happening at this year's District 18 GNT final. District 18 is the second largest district in North America, encompassing Wyoming, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Utah, Montana and Idaho (hence WASUMI). Travel distances have dictated a new format. The District finals are to take place May 6th and 7th and will be played entirely on-line in conjunction with Bridge Base Online (BBO). This is a first for the ACBL!

The leaders of our District hope to see as many of the club qualifiers as possible compete for their place in the Toronto final. Each unit in the district was given the opportunity to host a venue for the BBO competition. In Unit 390, the Martinique Bridge Club has agreed to act as the designated site. Thank you to everyone involved. We are about to make history!

Successful teams in each of the four flights - the Super Flight (unlimited), Flight A (under 5000), Flight B (under 2000) and Flight C (non-life master under 500) - will be eligible to represent the district at the North American final. District 18 has committed to

provide some financial support for teams travelling to Toronto.

NAP Qualifiers on the Horizon

Qualification for the North American Pairs (NAP) championship begins at the club level June 1st. As in the GNT format, the event is stratified so there is an appropriate game for everyone: Flight A (unlimited), Flight B (under 2000) and Flight C (non-life master under 500).

Members have the opportunity to qualify at club games throughout the unit from June 1st until August 31st. These special qualifying games will be announced by the clubs in advance, so put them on your calendar and PLAY!

Winners of the District 18 final will be eligible to compete at the 2012 national final to be held during the Spring NABC in Memphis, Tennessee.



2010 ALBERTA SECTIONALS

MASTERPOINT RACE

Final Standings - Top 20

1	111.9	Nicholas Gartaganis	Unit 390
2	109.6	Judith Gartaganis	Unit 390
3	86.8	Steven Lawrence	Unit 390
4	77.5	Daniel Bertrand	Unit 390
5	75.3	Janet Dunbar	Unit 390
6	70.6	Donald Gladman	Unit 390
7	65.8	Robert Crosby	
8	65.0	Peter Jones	
9	61.5	Terri Bedard	Unit 390
10	57.1	Chris Galbraith	Unit 390
11	52.1	Frank Ayer	Unit 390
12	49.7	Ken Penton	Unit 390
13	49.1	Allan Simon	Unit 390
14	47.5	Abdul Fakhir	Unit 390
15	45.4	David Johnson	Unit 390
16	45.2	Lucille Barton	
17	45.0	Lee Barton	
18	43.9	Gerry Marshall	Unit 390
19	43.5	Perry Khakhar	
20	42.1	Vince Nowlan	

THE KIBITZER

Bridge in Havana

by Ken and Pat Anderson

On Thursday, February 25th, we enjoyed an evening of bridge with members of the bridge club in Havana.

The club is small, but is eager to recruit new members. New people are always encouraged to come out and play. At this time, the club holds its games in one of the member's homes, but is working toward securing a public venue in the near future. The club hopes to gain some government support, and by this means, be able to maintain the venue.

One of the members, Ariel Garcia, picked us up at our hotel in Old Havana, provided a lovely tour of some of the neighbourhoods in the city, and then took us to meet the other members of the club and to play bridge.

The hands were uneventful, though Ariel and his partner, Ricardo, played a sweet small slam at the end of the evening. There were some passionate and heated debates, particularly between Ariel and his partner, all in Spanish. We managed very nicely without a word of either Spanish or English among seven of the eight players. Bridge is bridge, it seems!

Frankie Frontaura, one of the organizers of bridge in Havana, is organizing a Caribbean tournament from May 20th to 28th, 2011. Though we didn't get a chance to meet Frankie face to face while we were in Havana, he

encouraged us to invite everyone we knew who played bridge to attend (check out www.festivalbridgecuba.com).

We found all Habaneros to be kind and generous, immensely proud of their city, and very welcoming. If you'd like a unique tournament experience, we have no hesitation in suggesting that you consider this tournament. You may contact Frankie at ffbridge@hotmail.com if you'd like more information.



If you'd like to know a little more about bridge in Havana, don't hesitate to get in touch with one of us. We'd be happy to share our stories.



Upcoming Unit 390 Tournament Dates

Calgary September 9 - 11, 2011

Calgary November 18 - 20, 2011

Calgary January 6 - 8, 2012

Edmonton Regional August 8 - 14, 2011

Calgary Regional August 6 - 12, 2012



THE KIBITZER

Welcome to the following new ACBL Members:

Donna Badiou	Dianne Ferguson	Doris Ostergaard
Susan Ballendine	Sue Hawes	Andrea Petzold
Brenda Bann	Mavis Holder	Erika Pochailo
Imelde Bardana	Stephen Hume	Lorne Robertson
Pauline Boyd	Gail Hunt	Bernard Siebring
Suzanne Burns	Dianne Johnstone	Mike Theilgaard
Andrea Burrows	Graham Jones	Carol Thompson
Peggy Cassidy	Walter Kepczynski	Catherine Todd
Betty Chapman	Michael King	Jill Twa
Anne Christopoulos	Joy Long	Keith Wallace
Dee-Ann Clark	Diane Love	Pam Wallace
Brian Crookes	Jaman Mandhane	Carla Watson
Maureen Davis	Jane McCruden	Helen Webster
Margaret Dawson	Pamela Nugent	



We regret to report the passing of the following players:

Ted Shaver Victor Shymanski Rick Stevens

Club Corner

Bridgejoy Duplicate Bridge Club

North Haven Community Centre
5003 North Haven Drive N.W.

Owner/Director: Brian & Joy Saville
403-239-2768 or 403-464-4455 (cell)
email: bridgejoy@gmail.com

Thursday 7:15 pm Open Pairs Stratified
Friday 12:15 pm 0-1000 Stratified

- Zero tolerance will be strictly enforced
- Bridgejoy has a bidding box policy
- Please do not wear perfume as some players are allergic
- Web site: <http://www.acblunit390.org>

Bridgejoy Special Games:

Charity Championships (cards fees \$8.00)

Thursday, April 28 7:15 pm

Friday, April 29 12:15 pm

Club Championship Game

Thursday, May 18 7:15 pm

North American Open Pairs (red points)

Thursday, June 2 7:15 pm

Friday, June 3 12:15 pm

Bow River Bridge Club

West Hillhurst Community Centre

1940 6th Ave. N.W.

403-481-3488

Game Schedule

Wednesday 7:00 pm Flighted Swiss Teams

For partners and team arrangements, call
Elaine Stewart 403-246-8691

Players at all levels are welcome.

"Thank You" from the Club Manager

Our game has become well established, averaging 12 to 17 tables each week. But the success of the game is totally due to the unconditional support we get from every participant. Every single person helps when he/she walks in the door. They help set up tables and chairs, put out the table cards and bidding boxes, pre-shuffle the cards, help in the kitchen, bring goodies to share and then they help with the take-down. They do it with smiles on their faces and are always willing to do more.

Delores Hedley

THE KIBITZER

Elbow River Bridge Club

St. Peter's Anglican Church

903 75 Ave. S.W.

(at the corner of Elbow Drive and 75 Ave.)

Club Manager: Hazel Skelton

403-249-7977

Monday 7:00 pm Stratified Pairs

*** Complimentary cookies and coffee! ***

*** Wheelchair accessible ***

*** Ample free parking ***

Aurora Bridge Club

North Haven Community Association

5003 North Haven Drive N.W.

Managers: Debbie & Lorne Hanson

403-239-2806 or 403-860-7079 (cell)

Game Schedule

Monday 12:15 pm Open Pairs Stratified

Wednesday 12:15 pm Open Pairs Stratified

- Please refrain from wearing any scents or perfumes



HMCS Tecumseh (north entrance, second floor)

24 St. and 17 Ave. S.W.

Tuesday 1:00 pm Stratified Open Pairs

The Fish Creek Men's & Women's Bridge Club offers a stratified Open Pairs game on Tuesday afternoons at HMCS Tecumseh, a beautiful facility, with panelled walls, carpeted floors, lots of windows, excellent washroom facilities, upholstered chairs and sofas and more.

Souper Tuesday

We provide free soup at 11:40 am, and the game starts at 1:00 pm. There is time to socialize, and our players (6 to 10 tables each week) seem to love the style of the game. It's stratified, and a great learning opportunity. Although you may play against some of the best players in town, you win points based on your success relative to others at your level. Occasionally, you can win the whole thing and get even more points.

This is a volunteer-run game; all profits are given to the CCBL for the Calgary Bridge Centre. We do our best to provide partners, but ask that you give us some advance notice. Call Elaine Stewart at 403-246-8691, or Jim Berglund at 667-2331

Bob's Bridge Club

Calgary Jewish Centre

1607 - 90th Avenue S.W.

Director: Bob Van Wart

403-277-8001 or 403-560-3344 (cell)

Sunday 1:00 pm Open Pairs Stratified

Bob's Bridge Club holds a game every Sunday. It's a very comfortable, friendly yet competitive game with players of all levels ranging from beginner to expert. For those of you mentoring, this is a great place to do it. Please come out and support us. It's a terrific way to spend a Sunday afternoon.



North Calgary Ladies Bridge Club

Varsity Community Hall

4303 Varsity Drive N.W.

President: Carol Lee Bellam 403-270-7438

Club Manager: Paula Sisko 403-286-7103

Tuesday 12:15 pm Invitational Pairs

Coming Events:

STAC Game - **Silver points!**

Tuesday, May 3 12:15 pm

*** No scents or perfumes please! ***

THE KIBITZER

Martinique Bridge Club

Knights of Columbus Hall

2419 - 54 Ave. S.W.

Bridge Club 403-243-4353

email: martinique@shaw.ca

Game Schedule

Monday	7:00 pm	Invitational Swiss Teams
Tuesday	12:00 noon	Chinook Ladies Pairs
	7:30 pm	Open Pairs
Wednesday	12:00 noon	Non-Life Master Pairs (0 - 500)
	7:30 pm	Bid and Play / Novice Pairs
Thursday	12:15 pm	Open Pairs
	7:00 pm	Novice Pairs (0 - 300)
Friday	12:15 pm	Thank You Friday Pairs
	7:30 pm	Open Pairs
Saturday	7:30 pm	Open Swiss Teams



Bidwell Duplicate Bridge Club

Woodcliff United Church

5010 Spruce Drive S.W.

Owner/Director: Brian & Joy Saville
403-239-2768 or 403-464-4455 (cell)
email: bridgejoy@gmail.com

Monday 12:00 noon Open Pairs Stratified

*** Please note new starting time ***

- Please do not wear perfume as some players are allergic
- Web site: <http://www.acblunit390.org>

Bidwell Special Games:

Charity Championship (cards fees \$8.00)

Monday, April 25 12:00 noon

Club Championship Game

Monday, May 16 12:00 noon

North American Open Pairs (red points)

Monday, June 6 12:00 noon

For a comprehensive list of Calgary and area bridge clubs and current information on games held, visit:

www.acblunit390.org



Open Unit Game May 28th

Bridge Nuts is sponsoring an open Unit Game for all bridge players in Calgary and the surrounding district. All of the funds raised from the game will go to support Beginner/Novice players in our Unit.

Date: Saturday afternoon, May 28th

Where: Martinique Bridge Club

Times: 12:00 noon Guest speaker Dan Bertrand
1:00 p.m. Game time

There will be lots of food, lunch, snacks and ... prizes! The cost is \$10.00. The sponsors of this event will not be taking any director fees. We would like to thank the Unit 390 Board for helping us to offset the cost of this event.

In the past year, many new members have joined our unit. In fact, Unit 390 is now in the top 5% of all ACBL units in terms of recruitment of new members. It is important to sustain this growth and the health of our unit and bridge clubs by encouraging novices and beginners to enjoy playing in ACBL-sanctioned games. Our record of retaining novice players is not so good and we are hoping to reverse this trend.

So find your favourite partner and join us on May 28th.

Tickets to the lunch and game are available from:

Marilyn and Murray Haggins

email: m.mhaggins@shaw.ca

phone: 403-547-4023

Carol Lee Bellam and Edward Faichuk

email: clballam@shaw.ca

phone: 403-270-7438

If you would like to make a donation toward novice bridge, please contact Unit President Jim Murphy at 390president@acblunit390.org.

Marilyn and Murray Haggins

THE KIBITZER

Partnership GPs

by Judith and Nicholas Gartaganis

The longer you play, the more routine a lot of auctions will become. With experience, you intuitively understand what partner's bids show (or ask) because you've heard them before. Still, especially with a new partner, you are bound to find yourself in the middle of some strange, unfamiliar auction. You have to cope with that moment of panic when you wonder how on earth you are going to steer the auction to a (hopefully successful) conclusion. Just like today's cars come equipped with a GPS, partnerships need GPs ('G'uiding 'P'inciples)!

When an auction enters the realm of the unknown, you have nothing to fall back on except guiding principles ... basic agreements that cover "everything else" and are intended to avoid uncertainty and ruin. These need to fit several criteria to be of maximum value:

- simple and straightforward: you have to be able to remember them ... sometimes in very awkward situations
- general: they need to apply to a wide range of circumstances ... too specific and they become part of your system (like a convention)
- reasonable: if you diverge too much from the mainstream, many of your partners will think you are "in left field"

In an excellent posting earlier this year on Bridge Winners (www.bridgewinners.com), Kit Woolsey started a list of the types of rules all partnerships should put in place in an attempt to avoid disasters. Woolsey clearly states that he does not necessarily agree with all of the suggestions on his list.

Before moving to a more detailed discussion of some cases, here are three simple examples from that posting to illustrate the general idea:

- If a bid could be natural, it is. (Feel free to substitute "artificial" if you like)
- If a bid could be non-forcing, it is. (or flip to "forcing")
- If a double could be penalties, it is (or flip to "takeout")

Here are four guiding principles that make a lot of sense for most partnerships. Remember, these only

apply in situations for which other specific (and perhaps different) agreements have not been made.

1. If the partnership is in a game forcing auction, a jump to game is always the weakest action. You may know this as the "theory of fast arrival" and it is a sound treatment adopted by many experts. When and why might a partnership specifically override this method? The most common exception is after a 2 over 1 bid, when a bid of 2NT is treated as a "stalling bid" rather than showing extra strength. A jump to 3NT can be used to express certainty about where to play.
2. If the partnership is in a game forcing auction, all 3-level bids below 3NT are probes for the best game. By extension, new suit bids may or may not be length-based; sometimes, you will want to bid a stopper to see if partner can bid no trump. And be warned! If you have the urge to make a so-called advanced cue bid (a slam-try cue bid before the partnership has agreed on the strain), partner won't interpret it that way, not when you make the bid and likely not later either.
3. If the opponents double an artificial call, pass is the weakest action. For example, suppose LHO opens 1♥, partner overcalls 1♠ and you cue bid 2♥ to show a limit raise or better. LHO doubles. A pass by partner is the weakest. If partner bids 2♠ directly over the double, it isn't necessarily *strong* but it should be more encouraging than pass.
4. A redouble of a penalty double is never business. It is always SOS and asks partner for a rescue bid. The concept is sensible ... if the opponents are pretty sure they can defeat your contract, chances are they will be able to! Only rarely, it will be obvious that there is no other possible place to play and thus redouble must be intended to punish indiscrete opponents.

So why not consider establishing GPs with your favourite partners. The essential idea is that any agreements will do ... just have them! They don't have to be perfect, just relatively easy to remember under the strain of competition.

THE KIBITZER

Mini-McKenney

Unit 390 Winners for 2010

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR (0 - 5):

1 st	Sandy Jean Robinson	Calgary AB	38
2 nd	Robert Heidemann	Calgary AB	31
3 rd	Paula Hopwood	Calgary AB	25

JUNIOR MASTER (5 - 20):

1 st	Melissa Martin	Calgary AB	63
2 nd	Tim Stevenson	Calgary AB	35
3 rd	Arthur Milne	Calgary AB	33

CLUB MASTER (20 - 50):

1 st	Emelie Quennell	Calgary AB	89
2 nd	Judy McKeague	Calgary AB	76
3 rd	Joanne Sharpe	Calgary AB	60

SECTIONAL MASTER (50 - 100):

1 st	David Swadron	Calgary AB	178
2 nd	Shirley McLeod	Calgary AB	110
3 rd	Bob McLeod	Calgary AB	106

REGIONAL MASTER (100 - 200):

1 st	Marilyn Swadron	Calgary AB	224
2 nd	Gail Bews	Calgary AB	190
3 rd	Camille Collver	Victoria BC	126

NABC MASTER (200 - 300):

1 st	Byron Lund	Calgary AB	282
2 nd	Roxy Sandmaier	Calgary AB	128
3 rd	Connie Wignall	Calgary AB	125

LIFE MASTER (300 - 500):

1 st	Marilyn Haggins	Calgary AB	327
2 nd	Murray Haggins	Calgary AB	306
3 rd	Jean Ward	Calgary AB	201

BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500 - 1,000):

1 st	Diane Campbell	Calgary AB	362
2 nd	Garry Ramsden-Wood	Calgary AB	268
3 rd	Janet Sharpe	Calgary AB	263

SILVER LIFE MASTER (1,000 - 2,500):

1 st	Linda Harrison	Calgary AB	317
2 nd	Jim Berglund	Calgary AB	311
3 rd	Tina Gokturk	Calgary AB	310

GOLD LIFE MASTER (2,500 - 5,000):

1 st	Abdul Fakh	Calgary AB	425
2 nd	Daniel Bertrand	Calgary AB	204
3 rd	Elaine Stewart	Calgary AB	197

DIAMOND LIFE MASTER (5,000 - 7,500):

1 st	Steven Lawrence	Calgary AB	411
2 nd	Donald Gladman	Calgary AB	171
3 rd	Dann Kramer	Calgary AB	171

EMERALD LIFE MASTER (7,500 - 10,000):

1 st	Gerry Marshall	Las Varas NM	609
2 nd	Nicholas Gartaganis	Calgary AB	292
3 rd	Judith Gartaganis	Calgary AB	253

Ace of Clubs

Unit 390 Winners for 2010

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR (0 - 5):

1 st	Sandy Jean Robinson	Calgary AB	27
2 nd	Barry Rogerson	Calgary AB	22
3 rd	Robert Heidemann	Calgary AB	20

JUNIOR MASTER (5 - 20):

1 st	Melissa Martin	Calgary AB	33
2 nd	Arthur Milne	Calgary AB	25
3 rd	Claire Strachan	Calgary AB	24

CLUB MASTER (20 - 50):

1 st	Emelie Quennell	Calgary AB	51
2 nd	Judy McKeague	Calgary AB	38
3 rd	Victoria Haines	Calgary AB	37

SECTIONAL MASTER (50 - 100):

1 st	Shirley King	Calgary AB	57
2 nd	David Swadron	Calgary AB	54
3 rd	Paulette McWilliam	Calgary AB	53

REGIONAL MASTER (100 - 200):

1 st	Gail Bews	Calgary AB	107
2 nd	Marilyn Swadron	Calgary AB	89
3 rd	Camille Collver	Calgary AB	74

NABC MASTER (200 - 300):

1 st	Byron Lund	Calgary AB	117
2 nd	Warren Richards	Calgary AB	74
3 rd	Connie Wignall	Calgary AB	66

LIFE MASTER (300 - 500):

1 st	Marilyn Haggins	Calgary AB	130
2 nd	Murray Haggins	Calgary AB	110
3 rd	Jean Ward	Calgary AB	99

BRONZE LIFE MASTER (500 - 1,000):

1 st	Diane Campbell	Calgary AB	185
2 nd	Janet Sharpe	Calgary AB	144
3 rd	Garry Ramsden-Wood	Calgary AB	94

SILVER LIFE MASTER (1,000 - 2,500):

1 st	Maged Wafa	Calgary AB	175
2 nd	Tina Gokturk	Calgary AB	169
3 rd	Susan Julius	Saint-Bruno QC	139

GOLD LIFE MASTER (2,500 - 5,000):

1 st	Abdul Fakh	Calgary AB	177
2 nd	Elaine Stewart	Calgary AB	136
3 rd	Daniel Bertrand	Calgary AB	101

DIAMOND LIFE MASTER (5,000 - 7,500):

1 st	Steven Lawrence	Calgary AB	101
2 nd	Donald Gladman	Calgary AB	47
3 rd	Gordon Campbell	Calgary AB	28

EMERALD LIFE MASTER (7,500 - 10,000):

1 st	Gerry Marshall	Las Varas NM	37
2 nd	Nicholas Gartaganis	Calgary AB	21
3 rd	Judith Gartaganis	Calgary AB	8

THE KIBITZER

Ethical Behaviour and Table Feel:

A Retrospective

by Martin McDonald

At the Bermuda Bowl world championship held in Buenos Aires in 1965, the bridge world was rocked when Boris Schapiro and Terence Reese were accused of cheating using finger signals when holding their cards to indicate the number of hearts therein. Jeremy Flint, bridge editor of *The Times*, was also a member of the British team.

Alan Truscott's book *The Great Bridge Scandal* documented the investigation and successful prosecution of Reese and Schapiro. Reese's rejoinder, *The Story of an Accusation*, was his eloquent defence. Following Reese's death, it was revealed he had admitted to an English journalist that the pair had passed information about the heart suit, but supposedly only to prove it was possible to cheat without detection.

In Buenos Aires Reese played mainly with Flint, the pair using the *Little Major* bidding system. In his book *Tiger Bridge*, Flint made two main points, over and above those previously made by Reese:

1. Despite playing together, Reese and Schapiro were barely on speaking terms. These conditions "were surely not the perfect background for alleged dishonest complicity".
2. When Flint was playing with Reese in the closed room, Geoffrey Butler (BBL official) and Waldemar von Zedwitz (American expert) came to watch. After the session Flint had asked Reese whether he realised they were being watched. "Good gracious, do you think so?" was Reese's response, to which Flint had added "I suppose they must be considering banning the *Little Major*". Flint later wrote "Reese was considered a fool by no-one, [yet] according to his accusers he continued to exchange signals for the next seven days".

At first glance it may seem strange that a pair of experts who dislike each other can play excellent bridge together. Edgar Kaplan, in describing the strength of one of the all-time greatest Canadian bridge partnerships, Eric Murray and Sami Kehela, said: "I think their strength was they didn't much care

for one another but each thought the other was a better player than he was."

As an administrator, in his capacity as the chairman of the protest committee of the Greater New York Bridge Association (GNYBA), Kaplan was able to steer between extreme views of the proprieties. An older group of players tended to regard the proprieties as pious nonsense, believing that it was unrealistic to demand that players bid and play in tempo: problems arise that require time to consider. A younger group demanded that violations of the proprieties be made part of a player's record. Such violations can include, for example, fumbling with a singleton on defence.

Kaplan's own view, adopted by the GNYBA and subsequently by the ACBL's National Laws Commission, was that if a player takes an action that could have been influenced by unauthorized information, that action constitutes an offense, but not an offense that should necessarily be regarded as cheating. Instead, the incident should be handled as a procedural matter - much as accidentally exposing a card is treated as a technical violation - not as an attempt to cheat. In this way, bridge is able to apply sanctions such as a score adjustment when a player allows himself to be inadvertently and subconsciously influenced by, say, his partner's hesitation. It isn't necessary to go to the extreme of accusing the player of deliberate cheating.

Flint had emphasized the fact that, at the very top, bridge world champions had a feel for the table and intuitively knew the right time to load the dice in their favour. Table feel is an adroit manner of drawing inferences from the behaviour of the opponents, rather than from their calls and plays. One is not allowed to draw inferences from partner's hesitations or mannerisms. However, one is certainly entitled to assess the climate suggested by the opponents' demeanour and attempt to determine whether an opportunity for profit exists. Ely Culbertson prided himself on his ability to "play the man and not the cards."

Matchpoint scoring provides more scope for unorthodox action than IMPs. Barry Crane was a master of recognizing such situations and probably the greatest matchpoint player of all time as a result. The wizardry lies in knowing when to take a non-standard action.

THE KIBITZER

A Retrospective (continued)

Woolsey defined "taking a position" as invoking an action that would lead to an irrecoverably bad board if it turns out poorly. He implied that the reward for being right justified the calculable risk. In other words, the estimated risk/reward ratio justifies the decision. A prime example is bidding a thin minor suit slam that the field won't find. This action risks a very bad board if it is wrong.

Another factor can come into play in this set of equations: the probability of an opponent's error. This is particularly true if no information as to the correct lead has been exchanged between opponents during the auction.

The key to successfully employing an unusual action is to use it only when everything else about the hand is perfect for the bid. If anything else is wrong, even slightly, wait for another time. This is Kit Woolsey's "double flaw principle". If the hand is doubly flawed for an unorthodox bid, find another call. Otherwise one may end up opining that the operation was successful but the patient died.

The risks involved with unorthodox actions can be immediate and costly. Who among us cannot remember one bad board followed immediately by another, one or both partners still in shock from the first result? Even more damaging is the long-term effects on the partnership.

The moral - if you are going to be unorthodox either be successful or find a forgiving partner!

Shuffle, Deal and Play

by Judith and Nicholas Gartaganis

Two decades ago, it was mathematically proven to take seven ordinary (and imperfect) shuffles to properly randomize a deck of cards. Any fewer means the deck retains information from the preceding deal; any more adds little to the randomization.



This is bad news for bridge players, many of whom don't come close to seven shuffles when dealing out a hand of bridge. Most people use only three or four "riffle" shuffles to mix the cards i.e.

split the deck into two and release cards with your thumbs so that they interleave. At least this method does a better job than the overhand shuffle (pull out a few cards from one place in the deck and move them to another place).

When the ACBL started using computers to deal hands, many believed the "computers weren't working right" because the hands seemed more distributional than people-dealt hands. It was even rumoured that the ACBL culled the deals, throwing out the "boring" ones and keeping the particularly frustrating ones. The ACBL position ... "Never. Repeat. Never."

So how does the ACBL use a computer to simulate shuffling and dealing a deck of cards?

The process begins with a starting position for each card. The technique combines the old with the new: a staff person manually shuffles a deck ... seven times, of course ... and deals out a hand, which is then entered into the computer. That initial card distribution plus the time it was created is used to generate an artificial, completely random starting arrangement. From there, a mathematical algorithm is used to randomly re-arrange the cards, creating a set of hand records.

You can read more about this process on the ACBL website. Or check out these other links:

<http://www.acbl.org/learn/computerHands.html>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shuffling>

<http://www.nytimes.com/1990/01/09/science/in-shuffling-cards-7-is-winning-number.html>

District 18 Minutes on WASUMI

All minutes of meetings of the District 18 Board (dating back to the inaugural meeting held in Butte on October 24, 1969) are now available on the WASUMI website, www.wasumi.org.