



THE DISTRICT 20 TRUMPET

www.ACBLD20.org



Vol. 18, No. 4

Bridge Across the District

Winter 2022-23

At 56%, Seaside takes No. 4 spot

The Seaside Regional drew 1434 tables, making it the fourth-largest regional in the past year. It was 56.4% of the most recent Seaside Regional in 2019, which had 2541 tables.

Tournaments have been down across the ACBL since they resumed in fall 2021. Smaller tournaments that never had many players from outside their area to begin with have stayed closest to their past performance, while larger ones have generally had more to lose. Among the 15 largest

Only Gatlinburg, Penticton, Palm Springs are bigger

regionals held since October 2021, the average table count was 45.6% of the previous count.

By retaining a larger percent of past attendance, Seaside actually gained ground relative to the other big regionals, reaching the No. 4 spot for the first time. Seaside was No. 5 in 2016 and 2017 and seventh the following two years.

The Gatlinburg Regional remains the largest with nearly double any other tournament despite dropping to 43.5% and 3108 tables. Penticton was second with 1658, also a new high position for that tournament, which was third largest from 2017 to 2019. Palm Springs, which had

Continued on Page 9

Parting shot: Troubling times ahead

My last article for the Trumpet!

My least favorite part of the last five years has been writing articles for the Trumpet. I much prefer reading and oral communication. To summarize and attempt what has happened on the national board and



Laurie Rowe
D20 District Director

District 20 board is not easy, as sometimes my information is confidential.

I can share that there are troubling times ahead for the ACBL. While the covid era was profitable for the ACBL, the last year has not been financially

kind. The IT department has struggled with old software design and the head of IT is no longer working for the ACBL. Contracts for NABCs were negotiated based upon historical attendance and thus are costing the ACBL money.

My time on the board has been very interesting and I've learned so much. I'm sorry I won't be able to put this knowledge to work for the next four years but I am sure that **Jackie Zayac** will do a good job. I've been on the appeals and charges committee (cheating and unethical behavior) and, looking forward, you can expect that online cheating will be cleaned up.

As a district, while we have been losing money, **Don Marsh** is doing an amazing job as president and truly tackling our financial problems. I see D20 moving in the correct direction.

I would like to thank so many people for their support, positive and negative feedback over the years. It takes a village.

I hope to see you in Phoenix!

Laurie Rowe's term ends this year. We thank her for her service to District 20 and the ACBL.

Zayac wins board seat

Former D21 rep wins Region 12 runoff election for 4-year term on ACBL board representing D20, D21

By **Chip Dombrowski**
The Trumpet

Jackie Zayac has been elected Region 12 director, a new position representing Districts 20 and 21 on the ACBL board. Her four-year term will cover 2023 through 2026.

Zayac, of Lafayette, Calif., and Incline Village, Nev., previously served on the ACBL board for one term as District 21 director, from 2018–20. She is vice president of the ACBL Charity Foundation and served as chair of the 2022 Spring NABC in Reno. She also continues to serve her home Unit 499 as their representative to the D21 board.

While on the ACBL board, Zayac created the national-rated 0–2500 events that were added to the Spring NABC schedule beginning this year. She is known for being the driving force behind the widespread adoption of mid-flight pairs events at regionals and NABCs.

"I'm a change agent by nature," Zayac said. "It's old school versus new school. I



Jackie Zayac, Region 12 director

want to change things. I want to make opportunities for lower-level players and social players. It all takes work and energy to get it done."

Continued on Page 8

Who's sad about a cheater being stripped of honors?

Former ACBL president Anderson booted from Hall of Fame

I had another article ready for this issue of The Trumpet until I came across a news item on page 19 of the October issue of Bridge Bulletin.

The news item that caught my attention was the last item listed in a report on the Board of Directors meeting at the Summer NABC in Providence.

"With great sadness, the ACBL Hall of Fame Committee accepts Sharon Anderson's withdrawal as 2022 Blackwood Award recipient and ACBL Hall of Fame member."



Don Marsh
D20 President

It turns out, Ms. Anderson has admitted to a first-class ethical violation under the Code of Disciplinary Regulations. Her offense was cheating online.

"Great sadness" in accepting her resignation? Really?! The "great sadness" is that Ms. Anderson, the former president of the ACBL, made the decision to cheat the game of bridge. The "great sadness" is that Ms. Anderson has been closely associated with the Educational Foundation for the

Continued on Page 9

Board raises entry fees, eliminates free plays

Changes to perks and compensation adopted

The District 20 board met via Zoom on Nov. 7. It was reported that the Oregon Coast Regional netted about \$22,000, bringing the district's losses for the year down to about \$15,000.



Marie Ashton
Business Manager

The board voted to thank **Laurie Rowe** for her years of dedicated service and hard work for the district as she retires from her position of district director. She served in that position for three years, before

that she was president and area representative dating back to 2015.

Welcomed to the meeting was the new regional director, **Jackie Zayac**.

The board reluctantly accepted the resignation of **Amy Casanova** from her positions as Trumpet editor and tournament manager for the Oregon Trail Regional. Amy did a great job in both areas for which the board thanked her. **Chip Dombrowski** will be taking over as Trumpet editor and

Continued on Page 2

Make plans for Oregon Trail

It's time to start planning for the **Oregon Trail Regional** in February. The Vancouver Hilton's lobby will be undergoing a remodel during our



Amy Casanova
Tournament Manager

event, so the pre-function area in front of our old space, the Heritage Ballroom, will be the interim lobby. The one elevator is small and will be busy; if you need to take the elevator to the playing areas on the mezzanine level,

allow for some extra time. It is unknown whether the benevolent magician who disabled the meters at the Park-n-Go will grace us

Continued on Page 9

Focus on the bright spots shining through the gloom

There are a lot of sayings about “change” out there on bumper stickers, refrigerator magnets and T-shirts. *Be the change you wish to see in the world. The only thing constant is change. A wise man changes his mind; a fool never will. Those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything. How’s that hopey, changey stuff working out?* OK, maybe that last one hasn’t been around since 2010 or so.

I am making a change; this will be my last issue of the Trumpet. Being managing editor of the Trumpet has been a great opportunity for me and I am very grateful for the experience. There is a lot of worry and consterna-

tion about the present and future of bridge. I worry, too. But mostly I feel excited about the energy and commitment to bridge that I do see, even if it looks a little different or smaller than what I am used to. One bright spot has been **Sheri Markwardt’s** mentor game Friday nights at the Portland Bridge Club. Regularly attracting seven to eight tables, the room is infused with good-natured instruction and fun. I love hearing things like, “Oh, no! I have to put my hand down and you’ll see what I did!” I love explaining the magic of bidding and seeing the dawning of understanding in a new player’s eyes. It also occurred to me that many of the



Amy Casanova
Managing Editor

people I have partnered recently are “bridge young,” either hovering around 50 or (much) younger. In the past few months, I have played with **Jamie Sparks, Kevin Marnell, Jonathan Pulvers, Chris Gibson, Ben Bomber, Kevin K., Jennifer Samuels and Krista Garver.** That’s more than two and a half tables of players that will be around for a long time!

It’s a sad fact that we are losing players at a dramatic rate. My heart was broken when I learned **Judy Nevell** of Eugene died and that **Barry Chappelle** was diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer. But – just like he’s been at the bridge table for the practically 30 years that I have known him – I have not heard one complaint. Barry, you will be missed. There are still many challenges going

forward. With ever rising costs and lower attendance at in-person games and tournaments, how will we manage? I envision fewer tournaments and the ones that do occur will be that much more special. Even though tournaments are a love/hate for bridge clubs, it’s still an exciting component of competitive bridge that our players should have the opportunity to enjoy.

However people want to play bridge, we should endeavor to make it possible. I have been fortunate to get to know the people who serve the district on the board and beyond. To all of you, thank you.

There is one saying we should avoid: *Keep the change.*

Amy Casanova can be reached at casanova.amy@gmail.com.

Glad to be back, like I never left

Ten years ago I became the editor of the Trumpet for the first time, in October 2012. A few weeks ago I got the post again when Amy resigned. This development has unexpectedly energized me as I look forward to carrying it on.

I want to thank Amy for all her contributions over the past seven years. If I’d known in fall 2015 (when I accepted the job at the Bridge Bulletin) what I know now, I never would have resigned. I was very active traveling to tournaments throughout District 20 from late 2012 through 2015. I considered this an integral part of the job, and moving to the Memphis area would mean I couldn’t do that part of it anymore.

It’s been a blessing having Amy’s help to lighten the load, and I’m glad her time with the Trumpet led to her coming to work with me on the Bridge Bulletin as well. But she’s doing that job remotely and it’s working out well. I knew it would, because I’ve been doing this job remotely since I left, and that’s worked out well too. If I’d realized how much it was possible to do the job remotely back then, I would have kept it.

Perhaps I would have gotten burnt out doing it by myself for 10 years, but who knows. Ask me again in 10 years?

Maybe it would have been smarter of me after college to go to work for a corporation that would have paid me a lot to do work I didn’t care about, in which case I probably never would have had any time to do this – or learn bridge for that matter.

For better or worse, I’ve never been good at doing things for money. It was always important to me to have a job I believed in. I loved my career in daily newspapers

(which ended a few months before I started writing for the Trumpet). It’s a form of public service I strongly believe in. It doesn’t surprise me I ended up working for a non-profit organization. Well, two of them.

This type of work doesn’t pay well to start, and in the niche world of bridge journalism, it’s much less – particularly in the shrinking world of post-pandemic bridge organization. At every level, these organizations are facing challenges. Clubs are operating on a thin margin after losing on average 26% of their business, as we reported in the last issue. Of the 20 mainland units in District 20, just six are holding sectionals – mostly the largest cities. And the district has lost over \$70,000 since the onset of covid.

That puts a spotlight on district budget items like the Trumpet. I believe what we’re doing has a positive impact and that things would be even worse without it. Keeping the Trumpet going through these times rates to be a challenge. I’m up for it.

Issues may get a little smaller and come out less often, but changes like these may be necessary to avoid being cut off completely.

It is my pleasure to once again serve as your Trumpet editor.



Chip Dombrowski
Editor at Large

Seaside

I said I wasn’t going to Seaside in the last issue, and that turned out to be fake news. Less than two weeks before the tournament I changed my mind. Actually, **Cheryl Haines**, our fabulous I/N coordinator, changed my mind when she had an unexpected opening in the house she rented. It was great to have the opportunity to go.

My best game of the week was playing with Cheryl in the Wednesday Afternoon Side Game, which was an unusually large 32 tables. On the last board the opponents doubled me in 6♥ when it was cold for seven. The auction (both vulnerable):

West Chip	North	East Cheryl	South
1♠	Pass	1NT	Dbl
2♥	3♦	4♥	5♦
6♥	Dbl	All Pass	

I can see why North doubled, with 11 HCP including the ♦A and the ♠K behind me, plus whatever South made the takeout double on. But therein lies the problem. The South hand:

♠7 4 ♥— ♦K Q 10 7 3 2 ♣10 7 6 4 2.

You may want to take action with this 6-5 hand, and you could make a case for a 3♦ preempt or perhaps an unusual 2NT. But if you don’t want your partner to double a making slam, it’s best not to make a takeout double with 5 HCP, not to mention a void in one of the unbid suits.

It would have taken a few more of those to catch Joe Grue, who had a 74%.

My most unusual hand came Saturday night in the second half of the Swiss teams (human shuffled). I had a 10-card suit!

♠A K Q 10 9 8 7 5 3 2 ♥9 ♦A ♣9

Unfortunately the opponents found their making 6♥ over my 5♠ opening. Realizing my only defensive trick was the ♦A, I had to go to 6♠, down one doubled. That was even more wild than the Friday night game with all the slams (10 of them for East-West!).

Tons of fun. Guess I’ll have to do it again sometime.

Chip Dombrowski can be reached at chip.dombrowski@acbl.org.

Board Marsh reelected two more years

Continued from Page 1

Veronica Reeves will be the new OTR manager.

After years of study, the district compensation and perks have been reduced in many areas. Instead of free plays, \$5 discount coupons will be awarded to volunteers. Regional rooms and travel expenses were reduced. The full report of changes is available on the website.

The board also voted to raise entry fees at regionals from \$15 to \$17 beginning in 2023.

July Ratley has been appointed to chair the District Goodwill committee. **Don Marsh** will appoint a standing Contracts Committee to oversee the increasing complicated task of securing venues for our tournaments.

Don Marsh was reelected as president to serve an additional two years, per the revised bylaws.

Marie Ashton can be reached at marieashton@comcast.net.



The District 20 Trumpet
Vol. 18, No. 4 • Winter 2022-23
© 2022 D-20 Organization
Official publication of the
American Contract Bridge League
District 20
6512 SW Midmar Place
Portland OR 97223-7517
Phone: (503) 244-5733
www.acbl20.org

The District 20 Trumpet is published four times a year in March, June, September and December. It is distributed free to clubs in Oregon and Northern California and small parts of Washington and Idaho. All sectional announcements are free.

Managing editor: Amy Casanova
Designer/Editor at large: Chip Dombrowski
Senior writer: Jen Smith
Ads: Susan Chambers, Sunset Bay Media
Printing: Oregon Lithoprint, McMinnville OR

Deadlines: The deadline for the Spring 2023 issue is Jan. 10 for free sectional ads and advance articles. The deadline for unit reports is Monday, Jan. 23. The deadline for front-page articles is Feb. 1. Please send to editor Chip Dombrowski. Email chip.dombrowski@acbl.org; phone 541-404-3290.

New Life Masters: Please send a photo for publication by email.

Deaths

Beth Bartel – 79, of Creswell OR died Sept. 17, 2022.

May-I Chow – 92, of Honolulu HI died Sept. 8, 2022.

Daniel Moore – 88, of Wilsonville OR died Sept. 11, 2022.

Judy Nevell – 69, of Eugene OR died Nov. 7, 2022.

Kay Pankratz – 81, of Vancouver WA died Oct. 9, 2022.

Dick Pitzer – 79, of Salem OR died Sept. 6, 2022.

Susan Raines – 80, of Corvallis OR died Aug. 31, 2022.

Chet Runyon – 85, of Newberg OR died Sept. 16, 2022.

Richard Shipley – 73, of Yuba City CA died Sept. 7, 2022.

Betty Wightman – 95, of Sunriver OR died Sept. 1, 2022.

Patti Moore Memorial

Garden Isle Sectional

Jan. 20-22, 2023

Tournament Chair
Cheryl Haines, cherhaines@gmail.com

Partnership Chair
Dennis Viner, dvineremail@gmail.com
All players must RSVP at kauaisectional.com

Friday, Jan. 20
1 p.m. Kilauea Lighthouse Stratified A/X Pairs
Ninini Point Lighthouse Stratified B/C/D Pairs

Saturday, Jan. 21
9 a.m. Wailua Falls A/X Pairs
‘Opaeka’a Falls Stratified B/C/D Pairs
1:30 p.m. Po’ipu Beach A/X pairs
Kealia Beach Stratified B/C/D Pairs

Sunday, Jan. 22
9 a.m.-4 p.m. .. Lolita Horney Memorial Stratified Swiss Teams
(Two session play-through; lunch available for \$5 per person)

Table fees: \$12 per player per session; (add \$4/player for lapsed ACBL members)

Kaua’i Philippine Cultural Center
4475-F Nuhou St.
Lihue, Kauai 96766

Stratified Pairs
A: unlimited
X: <1500
B: 500-750
C: 250-500
D: 0-250

Swiss Teams
A: 1,000+
B: 500-1,000
C: 0-500

NAP AND GNT

Eleven pairs qualify for New Orleans

By Hal Montgomery
D20 NA Events Coordinator

Fifty pairs registered to play in our North American Pairs online finals. They played from 16 venues all over the district. The success of this year's event can be attributed in large part to the leadership of **Don Marsh**, our district president.

Don sent emails to all the players in his unit reminding them of the finals coming up and committing to creating a venue from which to play. Don's active participation as a unit and district official in support of this district event inspired other officials throughout the district to commit to their locals to find venues.

Rich Carle from Vancouver, **Iris Chung** from Honolulu, **Chip Cleveland** and **Lorraine Rodich** from Bend, **Jon Gustafson** from the Oregon Coast, **Dennis Harms** from Corvallis, **July Ratley** from Redding, **Leslie Reynolds** in Eureka, **Gee Gee Walker** from Medford, and **Jill Woods** from Boise all worked to find players and formed venues to play from.

Even better, the efforts of these officials to form venues for their local players paid off. Not only did players have wonderful places to play from, but players from Corvallis, Eugene and Medford – places that had not had venues recently, all earned the right to represent District 20 at the nationals.

I would like to give special recognition to **July Ratley** in Redding. She hosted a venue at her house for many local players who had not played in our event before. She volunteered to house some players and provided a

Flight A



Hal Montgomery and Mike Levy



Linda Redman and Dan Hoekstra



Jeff Roman and Eric Stoltz

Flight B



Krista Garver and Jonathan Pulvers



Alan Kosansky and Larry Denneau



Ted Marconi and Mike Pavlik

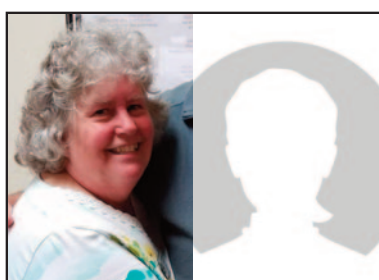
Flight C



Renee Arnold and Jaci Bohms



Anne Bogart and Carol Schaafsma



Catherine Van Fleet and Jane Lackey

NAP winners

- Flight A**
- 1 **Hal Montgomery**, Portland OR – **Mike Levy**, Tucson AZ
 - 2 **Linda Redman** – **Dan Hoekstra**, Portland OR
 - 3 **Eric Stoltz**, Portland OR – **Jeff Roman**, Bend OR
 - 4 **Connie Coquillette**, Portland OR – **Paul Wrigley**, Troutdale OR
- Flight B**
- 1 **Krista Garver** – **Jonathan Pulvers**, Portland OR
 - 2 **Alan Kosansky**, Kailua HI – **Larry Denneau Jr.**, Honolulu HI
 - 3 **Michael Pavlik**, Ashland OR – **Ted Marconi**, Mount Shasta CA
 - 4 **Kevin Marnell**, Portland OR – **Tim Rilling**, Vancouver WA
 - 5 **R. Peel**, Milwaukie OR – **Mike Goffe**, Portland OR
- Flight C**
- 1 **Jaci Bohms**, Toledo OR – **Renee Arnold**, Siletz OR
 - 2 **Anne Bogart** – **Carol Schaafsma**, Eugene OR
 - 3 **Catherine Van Fleet** – **Jane Lackey**, Corvallis OR
 - 4 **Sheri Markwardt** – **Stacey Melnick**, Portland OR

nationals. In flights B and C, four pairs qualify. The winners are listed above.

Players must qualify in special qualifying club games during the summer. I hope that next year we have more players in our finals.

GNT

The Grand National Teams will be starting soon for flights A, B and C, which will start with a round robin as in recent years. We are starting on the first day of January 2023 to give teams more time to schedule all their matches so that the event can be completed in May. Register by Dec. 31 on the District 20 website, acblid20.org.

The Championship Flight will hold the weekends of March 25–26 and April 28–29. Teams competing in this event will have a later registration deadline.

Hal Montgomery can be reached at dewitt@imaginata.com.

scrumptious meal. Many of these players were new to BBO and July had to provide laptops, iPads and technical and financial assistance. She reports that though the bridge was not good, the camaraderie was wonderful. She deserves a big shoutout from us all.

Our format of multiple sites throughout the district gives players the opportunity to play regionally rated events without having to travel great distances. Emerging players can earn all

the pigmented points they need to reach Life Master status without having to leave town. First in flight B paid 18 gold. First in C first paid 12 points half red, half gold.

Volunteers throughout the district served as monitors. The Portland and Vancouver Bridge Clubs made their facilities available as venues for our players. We could not run these events without the efforts of so much of our community. Thank you.

Playing online on BBO is easy. It is easy when you already know how to do it. We had many first time players who didn't have the experience that many of us take for granted. This led to our having to restart the first session of flight B on Saturday. Player problems also led to several restarts in the flight C pairs on Sunday. The experienced players in Flight A had none of these problems.

In flight A three pairs qualify to represent District 20 at the

Play of the Hand

Don't underestimate the power of a smooth falsecard

This hand was played in a recent live, face-to-face game in Medford. As opposed to online games, players at in-person sessions are more aware of body language, facial tics, and a sense of confidence or unease on the part of opponents.

The skilled player, however, will defeat the amateur psychologists by playing in tempo and adopting a poker mentality.

South opened 1NT (15–17). With no likely prospect for game, rather than bid Stayman, partner transferred to spades, where his points lived. Before I reveal all the hands, let's see how East figures out a line of play after taking the opening ♥3 lead. Here's the dummy and East's hand:



Jim Flint
Play of the Hand

Dir: South
Vul: All
Lead: ♥3

♠A Q 9 7 2
♥J 9 7 6
♦5 3
♣4 3

♠J 3
♥A 8 4
♦A K 9 8 2
♣9 8 6

West	North	East	South
			1NT
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

West led the ♥3, followed by the 6, ace, and king from declarer. Aha, East thinks, one of those singleton-honor opening notrump bids, mentally marking his partner having led his fourth-best heart from queen-fifth.

So, what does South hold besides the singleton ♥K? If South doesn't have the ♠K, he must hold all the missing honors in the minors for his bid, East thinks. If South does hold the ♠K, he still needs at least the top clubs for his bid.

Possibly figuring South for 4–4 or 5–4 in the minors — we're not sure — East plays his partner for the ♦Q and under-

leads his ♦A K, perhaps hoping to promote a trump trick for partner by tapping dummy's spades with diamond leads.

That didn't work out. Here's the full deal:

♠10 5	♠A Q 9 7 2	♠J 3
♥3	♥J 9 7 6	♥A 8 4
♦10 7 6 4	♦5 3	♦A K 9 8 2
♣A J 10 7 5 2	♣4 3	♣9 8 6
		♠K 8 6 4
		♥K Q 10 5 2
		♦Q J
		♣K Q

South, in fact, did not have a singleton ♥K. He knew West's lead was a singleton, because he wouldn't have underled the ace, and all the other honors were accounted for. So, he smoothly played the ♥K under East's ace.

When East returned the ♦8, South's ♦J held. Oops. Declarer drew trumps sluffed dummy's remaining diamond on his fifth heart, and conceded a club, making five for plus 200.

We're not sure if East got his gummies mixed up that day, but underleading the ♦A K was, shall we say, a bit foggy. And he good-naturedly admitted it after the hand. East, an expert player, was not above confessing a mea culpa.

If South, indeed, had the top clubs and a bunch of diamonds, there was no danger in returning the heart opening lead. Maybe forcing South to ruff would be useful in some way.

And, come to think of it, South was just the kind of player who would false-card with the ♥K, holding all those hearts. Wouldn't that be a feather in East's cap to see through South's subterfuge?

In the alternate universe where East returns a heart, the defense gets the ♥A, two heart ruffs, two diamonds and the ♣K for down one.

But, alas, it was not to be on that fateful day.

East-West got their revenge on the second board of the round, earning a top by setting North-South 500 in a miscalculated sac of 5♣ over a cold 4♠, white vs. white.

Jim Flint can be reached at pubathome@yahoo.com.

[see next column]



THE IN! CROWD

For Intermediate/Newcomer Players

I/Ners enjoy returning to tournament play in Seaside

Seaside was my first opportunity to attend a D20 Regional since taking on the I/N coordinator role. The experience was exhausting and exhilarating! It was terrific seeing so many of you there enjoying the camaraderie, competition and education that is uniquely available at face-to-face tournaments.

The data supports what I heard in conversation – our I/N players like daytime speakers and daytime games. A few folks defected from the Gold Rush because, “it just goes too late at night!” Other noteworthy comments when asked why they chose the Oregon Coast Regional to return to tournament bridge included: “I was finally ready,” and, “Seaside is a lovely place to visit.” I like to think they had heard about the cool prizes!

Our gratitude to all the fabulous volunteers who supported I/N in Seaside. You answered questions, directed traffic, gave out scoresheets, took pictures and awarded prizes – thank you! Of particular note are the 11 folks who volunteered their time and expertise to help grow our collective bridge IQ by giving a talk. The educational opportunities were tremendous and the feedback universally positive. Mahalo!



Cheryl Haines
D20 I/N Coordinator

I hope some of you will decide to pop over the Pacific to visit us for the 70th Hawaii Regional bridge tournament in late January. I'll see you there!

Cheryl Haines can be reached at cherhaines@gmail.com.



D20 I/N winners receive these cool cards.

Attendance at I/N Events

At the Oregon Coast Regional

I/N games	Average tables
9 a.m. 499er	7.5
1 p.m. 499er & 199er	8
7 p.m. 499er	0

Speakers	Average attendees
12:15 Lunch and Learn	25+*
6:15 Tips for Tops	12

*including one day of standing room only

Defensive fundamentals – part 2: count signals

Welcome back! In the fall issue, we discussed attitude signals on defense. Now we will talk about count signals.

In contrast to attitude signals, count signals are typically given when the opponents are leading to the trick.

If you are not trying to win the trick, a count signal is used to let your partner know whether you have an odd or even number of cards in the suit being led by opponents. With an odd number or cards in the suit, play a small one. With an even number of cards in the suit, play something that isn't your smallest card. Let's look at a couple of examples:

You hold ♠8 5 3. Declarer leads a small club towards dummy's A-Q. What club do you play? You currently have three clubs, which is an odd number. Play small to show an odd number of clubs.

On another hand, you hold ♥7 4. Declarer calls for a small heart from dummy. Which heart do you play? You currently have two hearts – two is an even number. As such, do not play your lowest heart – you want to show partner you have an even number of hearts. Play your 7; you will play your 4 at your next opportunity, confirming to your partner that you started with an even number of hearts.

So why do we bother with count signals? They can be an extremely useful source of information to help partner de-

fend a hand. Here's an example inspired by a recent 3NT contract I defended:

You hold ♥A 10 6 3. On your left, you see ♥K Q J 9 proudly displayed in dummy. Hearts have not yet been played and there are no other high cards (entries) in dummy. Declarer leads the ♥2 towards dummy. What do you do?

Hopefully you have already thought about this possible scenario and are ready to duck your ace smoothly. If you play your ace, declarer will discard dummy's 9 and have three heart tricks ready to roll. So, you duck, declarer plays dummy's king and partner follows with the 8. Declarer continues the suit with the queen from dummy and partner now follows with the 4. Declarer follows to the trick with the 7. Do you take your ace or not?



Kevin Kacmarynski
Trumpet Contributor

Were you paying attention? Your very thoughtful partner played a big card (8) followed by a small card (4) telling you that she started with an even number of hearts. That even number must be two because eight hearts have been played and both you and dummy have two remaining hearts. There would need to be 14 hearts for partner to have four of them. There is one heart still missing (the 5) – and declarer must have it.

If you take your ace now, declarer will

Continued on next page



ACBL District 20

Grand National Teams 2023 Finals

Win a trip to the summer NABCs in Chicago!

Play in the D20 GNT Finals online. Winning teams in each of the four flights are eligible to advance and may receive a subsidy.

Club qualifying going on now!

Clubs and Units may run GNT club-qualifying games for all their sanctioned in-person sessions (online GNTQs are excluded) from Sept. 1, 2022, through Feb. 28, 2023. Sessions must be team games that incur an ACBL charge of \$2.25 per table.

District Finals

For flights A, B and C, the District GNT Finals will consist of a round-robin qualifying stage beginning in January 2023 followed by a knockout stage to be completed by the end of May 2023, online via BBO. Register at acblid20.org by Dec. 31. Note: club-qualification is not required to play in the D20 Finals competition. The Championship Flight will be contested over the weekends of March 25–26 and April 28–29.

Eligibility:

- Championship Flight: Unlimited
- Flight A: <6000 Masterpoints
- Flight B <2500 Masterpoints
- Flight C: Non-Life Master, <500 Masterpoints

Flight eligibility will be established by ACBL's September masterpoint cycle produced on Aug. 6, 2022. Masterpoints won after this cycle will not impact flight eligibility for these events.

National Finals

The National GNT Finals are set to take place at the Summer North American Bridge Championships in Chicago starting on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. Winning teams from the four flights will be eligible to advance from the District Finals to the National Finals. In addition, the second-place teams in Flights B & C are eligible if there are eight or more teams participating in their flight. Travel subsidies may be established by the D20 Board.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Contact Hal Montgomery, 503-583-3717, or via email to: dewitt@imaginata.com
The ACBL Conditions of Contest is available online at:
<http://web2.acbl.org/documentLibrary/play/coc/gnt/GNT2022-23.pdf>
District 20 Conditions of Contest is available online at
http://web2.acblid20.org/NA_Events/GNT/2023/D20_GNT_CoC.pdf

Unit 487

Portland Winter Sectional

Jan. 27-29, 2023

FRIDAY, Jan. 27, 10:30 a.m., 3:15 p.m.

- Open Pairs, single sessions
- 0–1000 Pairs, single sessions
- 0–300 Pairs, single sessions**

SATURDAY, Jan. 28, 10:30 a.m. & 3:15 p.m.

- Open Pairs, two-session play-through*
- 0–1000 Pairs, two-session play-through*
- 0–300 Pairs, single sessions**

SUNDAY, Jan. 29, 10:30 a.m. & TBA

- Flight A/X Swiss Teams
- Flight B/C/D Swiss Teams
- Stratified Pairs, one session (attendance permitting)

All events with an upper masterpoint limit require all partnership/team members to be under the limit.

* Single-session pairs welcome.

** Second session as attendance permits; otherwise please join the 0–1000 game.

Stratifications

- 0–300 Pairs: 300/200/50
- 0–1000 Pairs: 1000/500/200
- Open Pairs: Unlimited/3000/1500
- A/X Swiss Teams: Unlimited/5000/3000
- B/C/D Swiss Teams: 2500/1000/500
- Sunday Pairs: Unlimited/1000/300



New ACBL members (0-5) play FREE!

Free snacks and beverages

Director in Charge: Jeff Jacob

Tournament Coordinator: Paul Walker, 510-316-3699, pawalker00@gmail.com

0–1000 Partnerships: Tara McMahon, taralmcmahon@icloud.com

Open Partnerships: Paul Walker, 510-316-3699, pawalker00@gmail.com

\$14 per session. \$18 for lapsed ACBL members.

Health and Safety: We will abide by Oregon Health Authority requirements and ACBL guidelines in effect at tournament time.

Sanction #S2301353

NEW ACBL MEMBERS

Elijah Barish, Portland OR
 Karen Blomquist, Portland OR
 Mischa Boehr, Portland OR
 Jonathan Dou, Eugene OR
 Eileen Fromer, Portland OR
 Renate Gorham, Portland OR
 John Graas, Lincoln City OR
 Joyce Ingram-Chinn, Kailua HI
 Brooke Logan, Portland OR
 Ardith Lynch, Ashland OR
 Betsy Manning, Astoria OR
 Diann Marten, Corvallis OR
 Caitlin Myers, Eugene OR
 Mary Ann Niepoth, Salem OR
 Don Potter, Carlton OR
 Linda Sheppard, Eugene OR
 Cameron Smith, Portland OR
 Duane Thompson, Seaside OR
 Peter Van Bever, Portland OR

Welcome!

gain the lead back in a side suit and play that 5 towards dummy, finessing against your 10 to pick up three heart tricks (remember, J-9 remains in dummy behind you). If you duck, declarer gets a second heart trick now, but can never score a third trick in the suit. You will win the next heart trick with the ace and, with no more entries to dummy, that winning ♥J in dummy will wither on the vine. Nice defense – you just saved your side a trick. Be sure to compliment partner after the hand for her great signals.

Kevin Kacmarynski can be reached at 2dragons@peak.org.

JUNIOR MASTERS

Paul Carmody, Kailua HI
 Judith Fenzl, Kailua HI
 John Graas, Lincoln City OR
 Bob Hazleton, Corvallis OR
 Diana Miles, Lakeview OR
 Mary Ann Niepoth, Salem OR
 Jennifer Samuels, Portland OR
 Vivian Sellers, Kailua Kona HI
 Susan Stangeland, Portland OR
 Scott Weaver, Portland OR
 Michael Woodward, Chico CA
 Kris Young, Bandon OR

CLUB MASTERS

Valerie Lam, Kailua HI
 Donna Perkins, Kailua HI
 Judy Pfandler, Chico CA
 Eric Poland, Kailua HI
 Jamey Skillings, Kailua HI
 David Tennant, Astoria OR

SECTIONAL MASTERS

Philip Harder, Vancouver WA
 John McCole, Eugene OR
 John Nies, Portland OR
 Mary Nies, Portland OR
 Georgia Spencer, Portland OR
 Ben Tribelhorn, Portland OR

REGIONAL MASTERS

Steven Acker, Portland OR
 Robert Demaster, McMinnville OR
 Gary Stromberg, Chico CA
 Ree Tudor, Bend OR
 Maryann Wood, Portland OR

NABC MASTERS

Patricia Armstrong, Boise ID
 Carina Cassim, Portland OR
 Susan Circone, Lake Oswego OR
 Maryon Evans, Nampa ID
 William Gille, Salem OR
 Stephen Jackson, Salem OR
 Susan Jackson, Salem OR
 Melanie Ligh, Honolulu HI
 Ernest Ludington, Salem OR
 Cheryl Maderazo, Boise ID
 Laurie Naemura, Salem OR
 Allison Walkingshaw, Corvallis OR

ADVANCED NABC MASTERS

Phil Emerson, Boise ID

DISTRICT 20 RANK CHANGES

New Life Masters



Nick Atansov
Toigard OR



Beverly Fraser
Boise ID



Deanna Heyser
Penn Valley CA



Jeff Heyser
Penn Valley CA

Not pictured:

Charles Abrams
Boise ID



Sally Lewis
Portland OR



Frank Straulemann
Portland OR



Ruth Yokoyama
Portland OR

Paula Koeller, Portland OR

BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

Charles Abrams, Boise ID
 Kay Alspaugh, Boise ID
 Nick Atansov, Tigard OR
 Sally Lewis, Portland OR
 Joanne Ruyle, Portland OR
 Paul Walker, Oregon City OR

SILVER LIFE MASTERS

Allison Evans, Corvallis OR
 Myra Falletta, Sublimity OR
 Krista Garver, Portland OR
 Gary Haynie, Kailua HI
 Mark Hickman, Bend OR
 Martha Maroney, Lake Oswego OR
 Karen Nelson, Corvallis OR
 W. Kirk Roberts, Crescent City CA

RUBY LIFE MASTERS

Ira Grifel, Lake Oswego OR

Milestones



Jay Roll
Kelso WA
Platinum Life Master
10,000 masterpoints



Bill Hardy
Beaverton OR
Emerald Life Master
7500 masterpoints



Carol Huston
Chico CA
Diamond Life Master
5000 masterpoints



Craig Jones
Boise ID
Diamond Life Master
5000 masterpoints

Teresa Jefferson, Seaside OR
 Jan Keller, Paradise CA
 Dennis Kendig, Ashland OR
 Mary Jo Rode, Ontario OR
 Suzy Ryder, Boise ID

Nancy Wetherson, Keizer OR

GOLD LIFE MASTERS

Alan Lawrence, Albany OR
 Donald Weber, Vancouver WA

Unit 394 • www.boisebridge.club

Boise Sweetheart Sectional

February 10-12, 2023

Holiday Inn Boise Airport
 2970 W. Elder St., Boise, ID 83705
 1-888-465-4329

Friday, February 10

Stratified Open Pairs 12:30 & 6 p.m.
 0-199ers (single session) 12:30 & 6 p.m.

Saturday, February 11

Stratified Open Pairs 10 a.m. & 3 p.m.
 0-199ers (single session) 10 a.m. & 3 p.m.

Sunday, February 12

Stratified Swiss Teams 10 a.m. & TBA
 6 rounds/8 boards/20 VP scale

Masterpoint Ranges

A = Unlimited B = 750-1500 C = 0-750
 Stratification by team or pair average

Entry fees

Pairs games: \$12 per session for ACBL members
 (\$16 for lapsed ACBL members)
 Swiss teams: \$120 per team includes lunch

Tournament and Partnership Chair:

Kathy Downen, sallaz2006@aol.com

Tournament Director: Jeff Jacob

No tournament flyer available; schedule subject to change.

Unit 477

Heart of the Valley Express Sectional

March 3-5, 2023

Corvallis Community Center
 2602 NW Tyler Ave., Corvallis, OR 97330

Phone: 541-231-5527

- ACBL members: \$10 per player, per session
- Lapsed ACBL members: \$14 per player, per session
- Guest memberships available

Friday, March 3

10 a.m.* 2:30 p.m.*
 Stratified Pairs Stratified Pairs

*These are separate events, not play-through

Saturday, March 4

10 a.m. 2:30 p.m.
 Stratified Pairs Stratified Pairs
 Play-through for those playing both sessions

Stratifications:

A: 2000+ B: 500-2000 C: 0-500
 (Strats determined by top player)

Novice (0-300 MP) games available at all sessions Friday and Saturday with enough participants.

Sunday, March 5

10 a.m. and TBA
 Two-session, stratified Swiss Teams

Tournament and Partnerships Chair: Elizabeth Schuft

ElizabethJSchuft@gmail.com

Director in Charge: Jeff Jacob

Tournament flyer not available at press time; all information subject to change.

Ideas on Bidding Theory

What's helpful?

Questioning the conventional wisdom on help-suit game tries

When your partner makes a game try, what do you consider help to be? From what I've seen of the way help-suit game tries are normally taught, I think the mainstream approach leaves a lot to be desired. So before getting into what's wrong with it, let's review game tries.

When the auction begins with a major suit opened and raised, a new suit by opener is a game try. Responder is supposed to look at their hand and decide whether to go to game or not.

Robots play this as a purely quantitative question: regardless of what suit you ask about, they go if they are maximum for their previous bid and stop in 3 of your major when they are not.

Bridge teachers tend to teach the subject differently, putting the question of whether you have help in the suit first. But then they let the quantitative question override the help question. Generally they too agree you should go to game with any maximum and stop with any minimum whether or not you have help. And for most people, "help" is considered either one of the top three honors or shortness in the help suit. To that I say no, no and no.

There are two problems with that approach. The first is that giving primacy to point count takes away the useful information that can be gained from game tries, basically making it not much different from how robots play it. The second is that shortness opposite opener's best side suit isn't necessarily helpful.

For me, game tries are about locating working cards. Points don't take tricks; well-fitting hands do. You may have 25 combined HCP, but if your hands don't mesh well, it's hard to make a game. But the right card can make all the difference, and game will roll even though you only have 22 HCP between you.

Here are eight possible hands responder could have:

- A** ♠K 9 4 ♥10 8 5 2 ♦K Q J 5 4 ♣7
- B** ♠K 9 4 ♥8 5 2 ♦K Q J 5 4 ♣7 2
- C** ♠K 9 4 ♥Q 8 5 2 ♦K 10 5 4 3 ♣7
- D** ♠K 9 4 ♥Q 2 ♦10 8 5 4 ♣K 7 3 2
- E** ♠K 9 4 ♥5 2 ♦10 8 5 4 ♣K 7 3 2
- F** ♠J 10 4 ♥Q 2 ♦10 8 5 4 ♣K 7 3 2
- G** ♠J 10 4 ♥5 2 ♦10 8 5 4 ♣K 7 3 2
- H** ♠J 10 4 ♥8 5 2 ♦K 10 5 4 ♣7 3 2

Before the auction begins, how would you rank them? Hand A appears to be the strongest with 9 HCP, a quality five-card suit and a singleton. Hand B also looks strong, the same 9 HCP but a balanced hand. Hand C is a little worse than B; getting back your singleton makes up for the point you lost, but the honors are scattered.



Chip Dombrowski
Editor at Large

Hand D has 8 HCP, same as C, but without the singleton and including a dubious doubleton queen. If that card turns out to be worthless, then it won't be any better than hand E (literally the same hand except without the ♥Q). But the ♥Q will be worth something much of the time, so Hand D is better than Hand E.

Hands E and F both have 6 HCP, but Hand F has the same questionable queen; on a bad day it could be no better than Hand G, a 4 HCP hand. Hand G is bad, but Hand H is clearly the worst with its flat shape.

With any of hands A-F, if partnered opened 1♠, I would bid 2♠.

(I play 1NT as semi-forcing, so I don't have the option of starting with 1NT and then bidding 2♠ to show a raise with less than 7 HCP, because 1NT will be passed the majority of the time. And even with partners who do insist on playing 1NT forcing, I don't use the delayed raise treatment, so I would still bid 2♠ with 6 HCP.)

Even with Hand G, which might pass an opening bid, I would not mind if partner raised me on this if I was the 1♠ opener. I think pass is better with hand H, but let's say you raised anyway.

So whether you agree or not, I'm going to impose a 2♠ bid on you. What would you do if partner now makes a game try?

If you're a robot, you go with hands A and B and stop in partscore with the rest. If you're a human using the standard approach, you go on hands A, B and C, decline with hands E-H, and only on hand D do you ask me what my game-try suit was.

If you go with all 9-point hands (and the flat 10s that should be downgraded to a single raise) and decline with all 6- or 7-point hands (and certainly anything less), then the help suit only becomes relevant when you have exactly 8 HCP. (Hand C and D both had 8 HCP, but hand C didn't care which suit was asked because with honors in both red suits and shortness in clubs, they felt they had help everywhere.)

But where your points are located is always relevant, whether you have 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 of them. When I ask, "Do you have help in clubs?" I want to know if you have help in clubs. I don't think the question is, "Do you have exactly 8 HCP, and if so, do

you have help in clubs?"

So the auction goes 1♠-2♠-3♣, and partner has asked you for help in clubs, so hand D can now accept the game try. Do you want to change any of your answers on the other hands? Are you still going to 4♣ with hands A, B and C? Are you still signing off in 3♠ with E, F and G? With hand H, you're probably sorry you didn't pass 1♠.

Suppose this is opener's hand:

♠A Q 7 6 2 ♥K 6 3 ♦3 ♣A Q 10 5.

Let's go back and reevaluate our chances in 4♣ with each of the eight dummies.

Hand D is golden. We're going to lose a heart and a diamond, but we have a great chance of making five. If either clubs or spades don't break, we might have an unexpected loser but still make four. It will take a lot going wrong to set this.

Hand F is second best. With the ♣K as an entry, we can take the spade finesse. If the ♠K is inside and suits are breaking, we can still make five — despite only 21 HCP. If the finesse loses or if only one other thing goes wrong, we still make game.

Hand E is my next choice. I'm hoping they lead a heart to the ♥A. Whatever the return is, I can win (OK on a diamond it will be a trick later before I get in), cash the ♥K and ruff a heart, pull trump and run the clubs — once again making five if all goes well.

It won't always be that good. If the lead is the ♦A K, I can ruff the second, go to dummy and lead a heart up to the ♥K. If it wins, that's the 10th trick, assuming the spades and clubs come in. Even if it loses I can still try for a ruff, though it's not looking good if they tap me in diamonds.

Hand G might even make four on a friendly lead, not that you'll ever be there.

How about hand A, the preseason favorite? If they lead a heart to the ♥A and a heart comes back, we have to think about which heart did they lead and how likely is it to be a singleton. If we put up the ♥K and it's ruffed, we aren't making this no matter what else happens. If the king lives, we then try to set up diamonds. Best case scenario, hearts are 3-3, spades are 3-2 and diamonds are 4-3, and we only lose two hearts and a diamond. If any suit splits worse, we probably can't make it.

With hand B there's less danger of a defensive ruff. If the lead is helpful — say the ♦A or a club, you're in great shape. But assuming a heart, you're always losing two hearts and usually a diamond, so you need decent breaks and a club finesse. It's better than A or G, and fairly close to E.

Hand C looks pretty bad but not hopeless. On a heart lead, there's again the risk

of a ruff, though at least they don't also have a cashing trick after ruffing your king. But if hearts aren't 5-1, the path to 10 tricks is still fraught. If they take their ♥A right away, you can get in and try a diamond to the ♦K. If it lives, you avoid a loser. If they suspect you have a singleton and go up with the ♦A, the ♦K will still probably be useful for a club pitch. But if a heart is ducked to your ♥K and you try the diamond, second hand can go up with ♦A and put another heart through dummy's ♥Q. They've now taken three tricks and switch to a trump. If you think you can still get two club ruffs and get back to your hand to pull trump without losing another trick, good luck. It's possible. Or you might try a club finesse so that you only need one ruff, but if that loses, you're already down.

You'd never expect to make game on H, but we might get lucky. It's a little ridiculous the number of things that would need to go right, so this is still the worst. But we might not go down any more than we might on A.

So I would rerank them D, F, E, B, G, C, A, H. If you used the normal criteria for acceptance, you missed a couple good games and got to a couple shaky ones. What went wrong?

Well, first, the assumption that having a maximum for your single raise would be good enough to accept, regardless of where the points were located, turned out not to be true. Additionally, the assumption that shortness is helpful also turned out not to be true on this hand.

What was more important than points or potential ruffing value was working cards. With the exception of G vs. B, all of the hands that had the ♣K were better than all of the hands that didn't have it. But it took 5 more HCP in hand B to make up for the lack of a critical card. And comparing A vs. B with all the same high cards, shortness in the help suit was actually a negative.

When the subject is splinters, teachers are careful to emphasize the concept of *wasted values*: strength opposite shortness is a negative. Shortness is most valuable opposite a weak suit. But when it comes to game tries, suddenly shortness is helpful?

Not all of your hands that want to invite game will be as concentrated in one side suit as my example. Sometimes a max is good enough — you just want 9 HCP and don't care where they are. Sometimes your help suit is only semi-strong; with A-10-x-x you might not have anything better to ask for help in, and shortness will be just as good as the king and better than the queen.

Continued on Page 9

32nd Annual
Maui Snowbird Sectional
Feb. 3-5, 2023
Maui Bridge Club • 131 South Kihei Road • Kihei, HI 96753
(808) 891-1093

<p>Feb. 3 Stratified Open Pairs, single session ... 9:30 a.m., 2 p.m.</p> <p>Feb. 4 Stratified Open Pairs, single session ... 9:30 a.m., 2 p.m.</p> <p>Feb. 5 Stratified Swiss Teams (two sessions) 9 a.m., TBA.</p>	<p>Stratifications</p> <p>Open Pairs A: 1500+ B: 500-1500 C: 0-500</p> <p>Swiss Teams A: 1500+ B: 750-1500 C: 0-750</p>
<p>Tournament Chair Jack Patnode: 808-205-4783 jacknode@fastmail.fm</p>	<p>Partnership Chair Bob Fontana: 808-280-8132 culliebarry@gmail.com</p>

Fees: \$10 per session, single events (\$14 for lapsed ACBL members). Temporary one-month memberships available for \$8. Swiss Teams: \$104 per team, \$110 for 5-man team (this fee includes lunch between sessions).

The Bridge Building
Makua Lani
Christian Academy
74-4966 Kealaka'a St.
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

Schedule

Saturday, Feb. 18
Stratified open pairs 9 a.m.
Stratified 299er pairs: 9 a.m.
Stratified open pairs: 1 p.m.
Stratified 299er pairs: 1 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 19
Open Swiss Teams (2 sessions):
9 a.m., 1 p.m.
Side Swiss Teams (single sessions):
9 a.m., 1 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 20
Stratified open pairs 9 a.m.
Stratified 299er pairs: 9 a.m.
Stratified open pairs: 1 p.m.
Stratified 299er pairs: 1 p.m.

Kailua-Kona

Big Island Sectional
Feb. 18-20, 2023

Entry fees

Open pairs, 299er pairs events: \$10 per player; lapsed ACBL members, \$14. Guest memberships available.

Swiss Teams: This two-session event is \$100 per team of 4, plus \$10 for each additional player.

Side Swiss Teams: Each session, \$50 per team.

*Free play for a player in a 299er event with less than 5 masterpoints and is a paid ACBL member.

Chairperson: Jean Zoeller, (310) 704-8238;
jeansunshine80@gmail.com
Partnerships: Penny Kallaus, (702) 480-8358;
pennykallaus@hotmail.com
Tournament Director: Patrick Kallaus

Stratification by average
Open = unlimited/2000/500 • 299er = 300/200/100

ACBL Unit 469 • Hilo, Kona, Waikoloa

No ad flyer available at press time; schedule subject to change.



SCHEDULE

MONDAY, Feb. 20

- 7 pm.....Columbia River Bracketed KOs
(winners continue 10:30 & 3 Tuesday)
- 7 pm.....Open Charity Pairs
(Evening Side Game Series 1 of 3)
- 7 pm.....♦ 499er Charity Pairs

TUESDAY, Feb. 21

- 10:30 am♦ 499er Stratified Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....Open Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....♦ Trillium Gold Rush Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....Bracketed Round Robin Teams
- 10:30 & 3.....Columbia River Bracketed KOs
(continued)
- 3 pm.....♦ 499er Stratified Pairs
- 8 pm.....Evening Side Game Series (2 of 3)

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22

- 10:30 am♦ 499er Stratified Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....Mount St. Helens Bracketed KOs
(Soloway style, winners continue Thursday)
- 10:30 & 3.....Open Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....♦ Rose Gold Rush Pairs
- 3 pm.....♦ 499er Stratified Pairs
- 8 pm.....Evening Side Game Series (3 of 3)

THURSDAY, Feb. 23

- 10:30 am♦ 499er Stratified Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....Open Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....♦ Rhododendron Gold Rush Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....Bracketed Round Robin Teams
- 10:30 & 3.....Mount St. Helens Bracketed KOs
(continued)
- 3 pm.....♦ 499er Stratified Pairs
- 8 pm.....Thurs-Fri Evening Swiss Teams
(continues Friday)

FRIDAY, Feb. 24

- 10:30 am♦ 499er Stratified Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....Mount Hood Bracketed KOs
(Soloway style, winners continue Saturday)
- 10:30 & 3.....Open Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....♦ Azalea Gold Rush Pairs
- 3 pm.....♦ 499er Stratified Pairs
- 8 pm.....Thurs-Fri Evening Zip Swiss Teams
(second of two sessions)

SATURDAY, Feb. 25

- 10:30 am♦ 499er Stratified Pairs
- 10:30 am♦ 0-20 Newcomer Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....Bracketed Round Robin Teams
- 10:30 & 3.....A/X Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....B/C Midflight Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....♦ Tulip Gold Rush Pairs
- 10:30 & 3.....Mount Hood Bracketed KOs (continued)
- 3 pm.....♦ 499er Stratified Pairs

SUNDAY, Feb. 26

- 10 & TBAAXY Swiss Teams
- 10 & TBA ..♦ Bracketed Round Robin Teams (0-2500)
- 10 & 1.....Fast Pairs

SCHEDULE NOTES

Single-session pairs are welcome in either session of all open and gold rush pairs events.

Soloway-style KOs: The first day is a two-session round robin, with the top four teams in each bracket advancing to the second day and again playing two sessions.

ENTRY FEES

\$17

All transactions are cashless; buy with credit card off site or online at acbl.org/entry-express

HEALTH & SAFETY

Oregon Health Authority and ACBL rules in effect at tournament time will be followed. Proof of vaccination will be required and masks may also be required.

STRATIFICATIONS

Open Pairs: Open/3000/1500

♦ Gold Rush Pairs (Under 750): 750/300/200

A/X Pairs: Open/4000

B/C Midflight Pairs: 3000/1500

♦ 499er Events (Under 500):

A: 300-500, B: 100-300, C: 0-100

Open Swiss Teams: Open/2500/750

AXY Swiss Teams: Open/5000/3000

Bracketed Round Robin Teams (Under 2500):

0-2500 (no player over 2500); groups by MP range; gold points in each group.

Eligibility for flighted events based on top player's MP total.

Thereafter, strats determined by average of pair or team. Play two times in side game series to qualify for overall gold points.

♦ Indicates I/N (Intermediate/Newcomer) events

LODGING

**Hilton
Vancouver, Washington**

301 W. 6th St.,
Vancouver, WA 98660
(across the bridge from Portland)

RESERVATIONS: Direct link at acbl20.org or email vancouver-washington@hilton.com (code CBL) or phone 360-993-4500 or 800-445-8667 and ask for code CBL.

Rates: \$172 and up

Cutoff Date: Jan. 30, 2023, or when room block is full

Parking: Park 'N Go at Sixth & Washington

Directions from Portland: North over I-5 bridge; exit 1B City Center; left lane to E. 6th

Directions from North: From I-5 S, exit 1C Mill Plain Blvd.; left on Washington, right on W. 6th.

CONTACTS & INFO

DIRECTOR IN CHARGE: McKenzie Myers

TOURNAMENT MANAGER: Amy Casanova
casanova.amy@gmail.com; 503-753-9395

PARTNERSHIPS: Hal Montgomery
dewitt@imaginata.com; 503-583-3717

I/N COORDINATOR: Cheryl Haines
cherhaines@gmail.com; 650-207-6430



D20 WEBSITE
acbl20.org

Zayac: Plans to attend D20 tournaments to meet, listen to new constituents

Continued from Page 1

To get to know District 20 better, she has booked trips to all of D20's 2023 regionals – Hawaii, Oregon Trail and Seaside – along with the Garden Island Sectional on Kauai in January. She plans to continue visiting more areas of the district in 2024 and beyond. She attended an informal district board meeting in Seaside and the official post-Seaside meeting on Zoom in November.

"You guys have a lot of good energy," she said. "I want to see if I can bring some ideas from there and use them on the national level."

After finding out that D20 will most likely not be able to hold a regional in Eugene next year because of the unavailability of affordable hotel contracts, Zayac began thinking about how she might try to help. The cost of contracts has become an issue for D21 also, she said.

"Districts are hurting," she said. "You guys are losing, we're losing. I think all the hotels are doing the same thing. They lost so much money during the pandemic, they're just looking to jack up rates every chance they can."

Meanwhile, the ACBL continues to hold online regionals periodically – an issue Zayac hopes to see the board revisit.

"I will advocate for continued incentives for face-to-face play and to stop the mega-clubs from taking members from our local clubs," Zayac said in a candidate statement distributed to unit board members, who are the electorate for regional director elections.

"I spent my career working in the public sector. I understand how public agencies and nonprofit organizations work and what makes them succeed."

Zayac did community relations for sani-



New Regional Director Jackie Zayac is seen in April on a trip to France where her son was honored.

tary districts, first for nine years in the Los Angeles County Sanitation Department and then for 22 years in the Central Costa County Sanitary District. She found both agencies to be forward-thinking.

"We were into cost-effectiveness and providing excellent customer service. You need to do both," she said. "We had a 100-year plan for rebuilding sewers."

When construction of sewer lines created problems for homeowners, Zayac would sometimes authorize hand digging – an expensive solution compared to using an excavator – to ensure sensitive

areas were handled carefully. But it didn't always have to be that way. She also found out-of-the-box solutions that saved money.

One homeowner had five turtles who lived in a cement pond in her backyard; she was concerned that construction would endanger them. Would red tape delay the needed maintenance, or would the local government trample on the residents' concerns? On Zayac's watch, neither.

"I went and bought them a wading pool for \$15," she said. "I follow the rules, but maybe sometimes you need to do things a little differently."

When Zayac retired, she didn't have a plan for what to do next. A neighbor suggested bridge. She took a set of lessons and joined the ACBL in 2009, at least a year before she actually started playing, because she had been told about the masterpoint requirements changing for members joining after the start of 2010.

After several months of lessons, she got invited to join a social group as a fill-in and a member there was interested in trying duplicate. They started out at sectional in November 2010, the same month Zayac got her first partial masterpoint in a club pro-am game. In early 2011 she met Anne Hollingsworth and formed a regular partnership.

"I think we're all very lucky to have her representing us," said Hollingsworth, who is D21's vice president and planning to become president next year. "She's passionate, high energy, she always wants to do the right thing. She's very creative with ideas. She's out there listening to all the concerns. She'll ask you what you think we should be doing. That's good leadership."

With Hollingsworth, Zayac attended her first regional in Reno at the end of 2011, when it was run by District 20. They were regulars there the last four years of the

tournament's existence, which gave Zayac the opportunity to meet District 20 players such as Sam Asai, Sylvia Riewerts and Chip Dombrowski.

Asai met her in the last round of an event at the 2012 Reno Regional and they had a drink after to celebrate New Year's Eve. "She was very affable," he said. "I think she'll do a fine job as our regional director."

Zayac joined the Unit 499 board in 2013. When she made Life Master that fall, she threw a party at the club. Along with providing hors d'oeuvres and champagne, she bought entries for everyone who had ever played with her.

During her time on the ACBL board, Zayac served on the San Francisco 2019 NABC committee, along with Cheryl Haines, who this year became D20 I/N coordinator, as well as Stu Goodgold, who would succeed Zayac as D21 director and become her opponent in the recent election. Haines, who was one of the hardest working volunteers any NABC committee has ever known, had the opportunity to see both of them in action.

"I was impressed with Jackie," she said. "She's a doer, she gets things done."

Zayac returns to the board at a critical time for the ACBL, after membership has declined by 27,000 in three years.

"We've got to get those membership numbers up," Zayac said. "I'm really after encouraging and nurturing the new players. You need beginners. We have to figure out how to infuse this into the clubs. Nobody has money to advertise. Every area is different. We need to get a whole litany of programs going."

"We should all be looking for the betterment of bridge. We are at a crossroads. We have got to build this or it's going to die."

Perspective

The ACBL does not pave roads

What the national board reorganization means for smaller districts

By Chip Dombrowski

The Trumpet

In 2020 the ACBL board approved a reorganization plan under which it would gradually reduce from 25 to 13 members. While the 25 districts remain intact, they were arranged into 13 regions, each containing one to three districts. Regional directors represent all of the districts in their region.

Perhaps a better idea that was discussed but not considered politically feasible would have been to eliminate geographic representation and choose board members some other way. The concept of representing a district in the ACBL has always been an odd one.

Twelve of the 13 regions have by now elected a regional director, and a few other district directors whose terms have not expired remain on the board. Predictably, as the regions have held their elections, candidates representing the largest district in the region have won all contested races.

While the concept of geographic representation is as pointless and outdated as it ever was, it continues to hold

enough sway over pretty much everyone in a position to vote — those who sit on unit boards — that it's driving the results of these elections.

Many people in smaller districts feel that they are "losing" representation because they must now rely on a director in a larger, neighboring district to represent them. This really shouldn't be something to worry about.

When it comes to the matters handled by the ACBL board, districts don't have any interests that need to be represented. There are a variety of constituencies within the ACBL — say small clubs and large clubs to cite an obvious example — but all of them exist within each district.

The mindset that assumes geographic representation is important carries over from our political system. Although Congress has largely abandoned the practice of pork barrel spending, that is the root of it. In the old days, seats on key Congressional committees were vital to the constituents of those who held them. If your Congressman had a seat on the House Appropriations Committee, you had a much

better chance of getting your roads paved than someone in another district.

Too many people view the ACBL board as if it's the House Appropriations Committee. They think, we need to have a representative from our district on the board, or else we'll never get our roads paved.

But here's the thing. The ACBL does not pave roads. There are no issues before the board that pit the interests of one district against another.

The board is charged with considering the interests of the league as a whole. This is true regardless of how many members are on it or where they live.

If you have an issue you think the board should address, contact your regional director. If you don't think that person is responsive (this won't be the case for us in Region 12), try another one.

At any point in the last seven years that I've been an ACBL employee, there have been at least five board members I would have felt comfortable going to. In my experience they all listen to members from anywhere, as they should.

In Memoriam

Judy Nevell

May 23, 1953–Nov. 7, 2022

Judy Nevell died at the age of 69 at the Pete Moore Hospice House in Eugene, surrounded

by loved ones. Judy was born in Williston ND, where she grew up and graduated from Williston High School in 1971. A natural born teacher, she was a high school business education teacher for 28 years, having received her undergraduate de-

gree at the University of North Dakota and a masters in education at Oregon State University. After meeting the love of her life, Bill, in a college class, she married and entered her favorite role in life, being a mother to her daughter, Alyssa. Judy was a dedicated mother who staunchly supported her daughter in all of her ventures and passions over the years, from horse shows, to earning a graduate degree. Judy was a strong, intelligent, funny and giving person who cared deeply for the people in her life during all of her years.

After retirement, she shifted her skills to teaching the art and science of duplicate bridge. Sharing the passion of her favorite hobby and pastime quickly resulted in her rise as a pillar of expertise and a key member of bridge trips to the Oregon coast and mountains. "Our bridge community has suf-

ferred a loss from which we will all never fully recover," said Don Marsh, owner of the Emerald Bridge Club in Eugene and District 20 president. "Our loss pales in comparison to that felt



Judy Nevell

by her husband, Bill, daughter, Alyssa, her sisters and various other family members, of course. In Judy's honor, each year on the second Saturday in December, the Emerald Bridge Club will hold a Judy Nevell Memorial Game that we will use to not only remember Judy, but also as a fundraiser for the Pete Moore Hospice House which did such an incredible job caring for Judy in her last days."

Judy is survived by her husband, Bill; her daughter, Alyssa, (Jonathan); sisters Marilyn, Kathryn, and Janet; father-in-law and mother-in-law Skip and Grace Nevell; brother-in-law David Nevell and family; cousins; and several nieces and nephews. Her first grandchild, Levi Ross-Nevell is due in January.

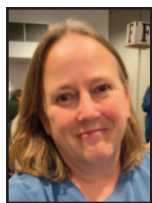
Memorial donations can be made to Pete Moore Hospice House.

The first Judy Nevell Memorial Game will be Saturday, Dec. 10, at 10 a.m. at the Emerald Bridge Club. Breakfast will be served at 9. Please contact Sherri Morgan or Don Marsh for more information at sherri_morgan@comcast.net or donmarsh45@comcast.net.

Player roundup

By Chip Dombrowski
The Trumpet

At the Oregon Coast Regional, we asked 10 players this question: *What do you think the ACBL should do for its health and safety policy in 2023?* Here are their answers.



Eileen Milligan

"Everyone should be vaxed and boosted given the vulnerability of the age group. Masks should not be required but welcome, and you should mask up if asked."

Eileen Milligan
Corvallis OR

"I don't think vaccines should be required anymore. I'm a strong believer in vaccinations. But they're not required anywhere else. People can wear masks if they want."

Paula Koeller
Portland OR



Paula Koeller



Alex Hudson

"Keep it the same. I like the way it is right now: Require vaccinations and leave masks optional, or required if the local area is high."

Alex Hudson
Morrisville NC

"I would like to see HEPA air filters that remove tiny particles like viruses in the playing area. I've been getting a lot of pushback on masks, rude comments. I would like that to stop. We need to support our mask wearers."

Suzanne Cook
McKinleyville CA



Suzanne Cook



Dean Altschuler

"Of the three or four tournaments that I'm aware of, at every one, people have gotten covid. I'm surprised tournaments are even being held. I'm still attending. I think you need to do whatever you can to limit exposure. I'd like sanitizers on the table. I'm fine with masks being optional."

Dean Altschuler
Bellingham WA

"Keep it the same, depending on what happens. I can't afford to get sick again."

Jim Smith
Mapleton OR



Jim Smith



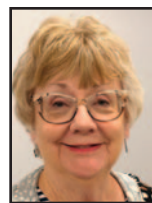
Ellie Hood

"If covid comes back in force, I think they should require boosters. Old age is immune compromised. Masks are also good for this population."

Ellie Hood
Portland OR

"I feel that the vaccines are not necessary at this time, because they're not working very well. If it's like this next year, I would say, drop the vaccine mandate and masks are optional."

Judy Geary
Fresno CA



Judy Geary



Terry Vokos

"I think the policy this year is fine. I like the vaccination policy. That does give me some level of comfort. I don't mind wearing a mask if someone asks."

Terry Vokos
Bend OR

"I think they're taking a reasonable stance. So many people in the bridge community have underlying factors that make it difficult for them to live in the age of covid."

Angel Almanza
Portland OR



Angel Almanza

Seaside: Panel discussion revived

Continued from Page 1

been second since 2015, dropped to third with 1636 when it was held in December 2021. It wouldn't need to gain much to reclaim that spot next month.

Hilton Head, which has been second, third or fourth when held in even years since 2014, was fifth with 1384. See the table at right for more data.

A panel discussion was held following the Friday evening session, resuming a popular event from past years that had not been held the last few times. **Roger McNay** led the discussion with top pro **Mark Itabashi**, **Laurie Rowe** and **John Ashton**. Friday's evening session was unusual for its large number of slam hands, all of them East-West, providing ample

material for the panel to discuss. Itabashi, who won Friday's top-flight pairs with **Mitch Dunitz**, had been sitting East and was able to provide insight on how the slams were reached at his table. A good-sized crowd stayed for the event until tournament manager **Jim Wheeler** had to cut it off to clear the convention center by midnight.

Speakers giving presentations in the I/N room each day were also well attended, especially the afternoon talks, which consistently drew 30 or more. In the past it was evening speakers who typically got the larger audience.



Mark Itabashi

Helpful: A different standard for 'help'

Continued from Page 6

With K-J-10-x in your help suit, you'd prefer to find the ace or the queen rather than shortness. With a singleton in dummy, you can finesse once and hope to drive out the ace. Then you can cash the king and ruff. If the queen falls, you've set up the 10. But it took both of those things going right for it to work, and you still only got two natural tricks. If partner instead has the queen, you just need to knock the ace out and pull trump before they ruff any of your three good cards. Much more helpful. And if the help card is the ace, we might get four tricks in that suit.

So what's my solution?

First of all, when you're asked for help in a suit, *answer the question*. If you have the ace, king, queen or even a jack-10 combination and anything other than a dead minimum or a subminimum, go to game. Most 7 HCP hands with help will do. Even a 10-x might be helpful, but the weaker your holding in the help suit, the more outside strength you'll need, and it will matter where that strength lies.

If you have only the 6 HCP you promised with your single raise, and you have help as defined above, look at your hand and evaluate whether it's a good minimum or a bad minimum. If all or most of your values are located in the two suits you know partner is interested in (the trump suit and the help suit) and your high cards are likely to be entries, you have a good minimum. Go to game. You might not always make it, but you'll probably do better than always going with a max and always declining with a minimum, or overvaluing shortness.

With a subminimum (when you have responded light) or a bad minimum, sign off. Having help will make the three level safer, but don't get carried away.

If you have a good hand without a

working card in the help suit, make a counter-try if possible. Bid where you live. With hand A or B, you'd bid 3♦. Partner won't like this and will stop. But you might have this hand:

♠K 9 4 ♥A Q 2 ♦10 8 5 4 ♣7 3 2.

Now when you hear the 3♣ game try, you bid 3♥. This is helpful. Knowing your values are covering losers and not wasted in opener's short suit, partner can go to game. Your entries will be useful for finessing clubs.

With 9 HCP, you have a hand that *might be helpful*. If your hand is potentially helpful, a counter-try says that. Sometimes partner will go no matter what you have; sometimes they will go with help in one of the other suits but not the other.

Similarly, with shortness and values close to the upper end of your bid, you have a hand that *might be helpful*. Again, bidding where you live will help partner diagnose your prospects.

Keep in mind that the ability to make counter-tries depends on having bidding space between the help suit and the signoff bid. When you make a game try in the lowest possible suit, you might only be interested in that suit or you might be also interested in either of the others.

When you take up more bidding space to make your game try, that shows more of a singular focus on the help suit. It becomes a binary choice, and help in the form of a working card should be your guide. You might still go with a really good maximum without help, but you've been warned your outside values may not be worth as much as you think. In that sequence, shortness is even more likely to be wasted.

There are other methods of game tries and some may well be better than mine. But this works for me, and I think it works a lot better than the standard approach.

Largest ACBL Regionals

Table counts for the top 15 regionals since 2017. 2022 data is Nov. 1, 2021, through Oct. 31, 2022.

	2022	2019	2018	2017			
1. Gatlinburg TN	3108	Gatlinburg	7143	Gatlinburg	8109	Gatlinburg	7936
2. Penticton BC	1658	Palm Springs	3437	Palm Springs	3849	Palm Springs	3388
3. Palm Springs CA	1636	Penticton	3218	Penticton	3543	Penticton	3234
4. Seaside OR	1434	Houston	2918	Hilton Head	3163	Houston	2922
5. Hilton Head SC	1384	Sarasota	2648	Houston	3044	Seaside	2893
6. Atlanta	1355	Charlotte NC	2632	Sarasota	2811	Sarasota	2766
7. Houston	1147	Seaside	2541	Seaside	2659	Monterey	2749
8. Dallas	1000	Monterey CA	2449	Monterey	2566	Atlanta	2640
9. Santa Clara CA	988	Greenville SC	2372	Charlotte	2527	Charlotte	2555
10. Sacramento CA	988	Atlanta	2192	Santa Clara	2264	Greenville	2405
11. Sarasota FL	963	Santa Clara	2102	N. Charleston SC	2221	Sacramento	2324
12. Raleigh NC	958	Sacramento	2059	Washington DC	2197	Santa Clara	2286
13. San Diego	929	Washington DC	1972	Baltimore	2151	Las Vegas	2189
14. Las Vegas	924	Orlando FL	1941	Raleigh	2142	Baltimore	2127
15. Philadelphia	904	Victoria BC	1932	Sacramento	2069	Victoria	1969

Players came from 29 states and three Canadian provinces. There were 682 mas-

terpoint winners. See pages 10-11 for tournament results and photos.

Oregon Trail: Changes to schedule

Continued from Page 1

again, so plan to pay for parking.

The KOs will be Soloway-style, bracketed round-robin team games the first day which guarantees a full day of play and eliminates the "losers Swiss." Also of note, we do not have single-session open pairs games at 10:30 and 3, but all two-session pair games will welcome single-session pair entries. There are single-session pair games for the

I/N crowd; they have been raised from 299er to 499er. There will be two 8 p.m. open pair games and the horizontal Swiss at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday.

Cheryl Haines, our I/N coordinator, has planned for speakers and prizes. Come say hi to any of the D20 team, if you have any questions, we are here to help.

Amy Casanova can be reached at casanova.amy@gmail.com.

Marsh: Seaside is not to be missed

Continued from Page 1

ACBL. Isn't it the Educational Foundation's primary focus to recruit and retain new members? The "great sadness" is that Ms. Anderson seemingly was allowed to "withdraw" as opposed to being removed.

To me, the real "great sadness" here is the fact that this item got so little attention in the Bridge Bulletin. The former president of ACBL admits to cheating and the story gets referenced as the last item mentioned in reporting on the minutes from the last Board of Directors. Was this an attempt by the editor to at least partially "bury" the story or in some way "protect" the reputation of an individual who has been, in the past, one of the key players inside the organization?

I truly hope that is not the case. We are all aware of the issues with online cheating. I also truly hope that the way the powers-that-be chose to treat this story is in no way a reflection of the organization's commitment or lack thereof to ferret out and eradicate online cheating no matter where or by whom it might occur.

Seaside

Shifting to some better news ... what a great job by **Jim Wheeler** and a host of other folks who put on this year's Seaside

Regional. Sherri and I had the distinct pleasure of attending this year and it was great fun. The remodeled convention center makes for a great playing site and with lots of lodging and food options within easy walking distance, it really does make for a five-star event.

A bonus was the great weather. But it is also true that there is never any "bad" weather on the coast. There is just weather. If you have not attended this event, I strongly encourage you to put it on your calendar for next year. You will not be disappointed.

Further good news is that the event turned a tidy profit at time when the district needed some good financial news.

Contract manager sought

We continue to look for more ways to get more folks involved in district activities. Specifically, right now we are looking for an individual who might have some background or interest in dealing with contract negotiations for the various venues where we hold our regionals each year. Please contact me if you think you might have any interest in the position and we can discuss.

Don Marsh can be reached at 541-228-4140 or donmarsh45@comcast.net.

Thursday-Friday Lewis & Clark KO Bkt 4(10 teams)

- 1 Roy Markham — Sylvia Markham, Montesano WA; Patricia Robbins — Orrin Robbins, Olympia WA
2 Benny Evans — Mary Aveiro — Margaret Glenn, Sierra Vista AZ; Carol Erbeck, Tucson AZ
3-4 Marilyn Olson — Barbara Cowan, Wenatchee WA; Gayle Carlson, Liberty Lake WA; Susan Norton, Spokane WA
3-4 Jerome Gordon — Donald Pitt — Laurie Naemura — William Gille, Salem OR

Friday Open Pairs(44 pairs)

- 1A Mark Itabashi, Murrieta CA; Mitch Dunitz, Sherman Oaks CA
2A John Ashton, Portland OR; Dennis Metcalf, Vancouver WA
3A Mark Lair, Canyon TX; Farid Assemi, Fresno CA
1B Tim Rilling, Vancouver WA; Kevin Marnell, Portland OR
2B/1C Linda Kelly — Richard Kelly, Newport WA
3B Ruth Davies — Andrea Miller, Victoria BC
2C Linda Baker, Spokane Valley WA; Patsy Neveau, Coeur D'Alene ID
3C Rita Docken, La Quinta CA; Dan Betts, Scottsdale AZ

Friday Gold Rush Pairs(26 pairs)

- 1C Sandra Waddle — William Waddle Jr., Brookings OR
2C/1D/E Graham Budd — Marg Budd, Cobble Hill BC
3C John McClure — Robert Simpson, Ocean Shores WA
2D/E Betsy Bohnert — Dale Strawn, Seattle WA
3D James Ross Burwell — M Diane Burwell, Olympia WA
3E Diane Jones, Silverdale WA; Carolyn Wasteneys, Gig Harbor WA

Friday Astoria Open Swiss Teams(19 teams)

- 1A Steven Lawrence, Calgary AB; Jon Preston — Michael Ainsley, Victoria BC; Sheldon Spier, Chemainus BC
2A Douglas Jansen, Happy Valley OR; Dwayne Brackhahn — Ron Senn, Beaverton OR; James Wheeler, Ridgefield WA
3A Cynthia Glad — Sue Anderson, Seattle WA; Renae White — Tim White, Mercer Island WA
1B Mirjana Reams — Ann Romeo — Rosemary Vazeux — David Binney, Seattle WA
2B Ray Fink — Ralph Haberfeld, Jackson WY; Shameine Ali, New Westminster BC; Randal Gentillon, Idaho Falls ID
3-4B Cynthia Sinn, Rockaway Beach OR; Louise Johns, Ridgefield WA; Marla Patterson, Arlington WA; Samuel Jones, Portland OR
3-4B/1C Marion Hull, Forest Grove OR; Emily Hull, McMinnville OR; Art Silvas — Steve Weinstein, Vancouver WA
2C Carroll Vaughan — Russell Vaughan, Federal Way WA; Stanley Slete, Ruston WA; Robin Farmer, Seatac WA

Friday Morning Side Pairs(28 pairs)

- 1A/B Valerie McWhorter — Dean Altschuler, Bellingham WA
2A/B Gary Smith, Merced CA; Lorraine Bocks, Legrand CA
3A/B Karen Eveland, Lewiston ID; Renee Petersen, Moscow ID
1C John Curtis, Astoria OR; John Hall, Portland OR
2C Marie Houck — Anne Zauner, Medford OR
3C Janis Wasser — Rosalie Holcomb, Seattle WA

Friday Morning 499er Pairs(12 pairs)

- 1D/F Leslie Weaver — Ree Tudor, Bend OR
2D/F Judy Corliss — Pat Rose, Bellingham WA
3D/F Shirley Sokolowski, Novato CA; Bruce Dishman, Gig Harbor WA

Friday Afternoon 499er Pairs(9 pairs)

- 1D/F Leslie Weaver — Ree Tudor, Bend OR
2D/F Sally Jerome, Bellevue WA; Alexandra Smith, Bend OR
3D/E Patricia Shaddix — Karen McCarthy, Portland OR

Friday Afternoon Side Pairs(36 pairs)

- 1A Nicholas France, Spring Valley NY; Judy Hess, Seattle WA
2A Charles Burns — Kathleen Mather, Vancouver WA
3A Howard Epley — Karen Epley, Kent WA
1B William Julius — Stanley Harris MD, Olympia WA
2B Don Marsh — Richard Silverstone, Eugene OR
3B Patti McCallum — Patricia Lewis, Seattle WA
1C Margo Cunningham, Newport OR; Marilyn Duvall, Bellevue WA
2C Jonathan Harvey, Vancouver WA; Steve Kasner, Bellevue WA

Friday Afternoon 199er Pairs(8 pairs)

- 1F Judy Geary — Marsha Infausto, Fresno CA
2F/1G Ann Murphy, Portland OR; Lisa Korick, Vancouver WA
3F/2G Maryann Wood, Portland OR; Dennie Scharer, Lake Oswego OR

Friday Evening Side Pairs(20 pairs)

- 1A/B Barry Balof — Claire Valente, Walla Walla WA
2A/B/1C Allen Custer, Edmonds WA; Gordon Sawyer, Seattle WA
3A Nicholas France, Spring Valley NY; Judy Hess, Seattle WA
3B Karen Eveland, Lewiston ID; Renee Petersen, Moscow ID
2C Christopher Gorton — Cynthia Gorton, Boston MA
3C Mari Livingston, Portland OR; Leon Joseph Grafe, Kihai HI

Friday Evening Side Swiss Teams(14 teams)

- 1A Anne Brenner — David Capra, Denver CO; Eric Stoltz — John Lusky, Portland OR; Sally Wheeler — Buddy Hanby, The Woodlands TX
2A Alex Hudson, Morrisville NC; Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON; Gerry Marshall, Calgary AB; Hendrik Sharples, Brush Prairie WA
3A/1B/C Sarah Thesenvitz — Greg Thesenvitz, Black Diamond WA; Paul Huntress, Auburn WA; Barbara Shukov, Los Altos CA; Paul Evanoff, Fife WA
2B Sandra Baker, Seaside OR; JoAnn Dawley — John Curtis, Astoria OR; Larry Marshall, Liberty Lake WA
3B Rebecca Anspach — Keith Connolly, St. Paul MN; Deborah Weiss — Vern Swing, Minneapolis MN
2C Sandra Baker, Seaside OR; JoAnn Dawley — John Curtis, Astoria OR; Larry Marshall, Liberty Lake WA

Saturday, Oct. 1

Friday-Saturday Sand Dollar KO Bkt 1(9 teams)

- 1 Mike Passell, Plano TX; Owen Lien, Oak Park MI; Linda Lewis — Paul Lewis, Sioux Falls SD
2 Jeffrey Ford, Redmond WA; Christopher Gibson, Tigard OR; Kim Eng — Eric Sieg, Issaquah WA
3-4 Joe Grue, New York NY; Barbara Shukov, Los Altos CA; Eddie Wold — Robert Morris, Houston TX
3-4 Tom Carmichael, Marysville WA; Stan Christie, Kirkland WA; Ray Miller, Seattle WA; Bryan Delfs, Vancouver WA

Friday-Saturday Sand Dollar KO Bkt 2(14 teams)

- 1 Nelson Davis, Seattle WA; Herman Xiao, Sammamish WA; Lucy Zhong — Jack Qi, North Vancouver BC
2 Dean Altschuler, Bellingham WA; Thomas Anderson, North Vancouver BC; Isabel Chernoff — Jane Youngberg, Surrey BC
3-4 Bruce Peterson, Aloha OR; Frank Straulemann, Portland OR; Veronica Reeves — Paul Reeves, Tigard OR
3-4 Sheryl Williams, West Linn OR; Deanne Takasumi, Tigard OR; Nely Johnson, Portland OR; Margaret Moen, Seattle WA

Saturday Jellyfish Open Swiss Teams(35 teams)

- 1A Vinita Gupta, Woodside CA; Edward Zuckerberg, Los Altos Hills CA; Debbie Rosenberg — Michael Rosenberg, Sunnyvale CA
2A William Bailey — Arti Bhargava, Mill Valley CA; Daniel Korbel — Joshua Donn, Las Vegas NV
3A Mirjana Reams — Rosemary Vazeux, Seattle WA; Will Williams — Merle Stetser, Honolulu HI
1-2B Kevin Marnell, Portland OR; Lynda Hirst — Tim Rilling, Vancouver WA; R. Peel, Milwaukie OR
1-2B Ray Fink — Ralph Haberfeld, Jackson WY; Shameine Ali, New Westminster BC; Randal Gentillon, Idaho Falls ID
3B/1C Linda Smith — David Smith — Mary Powelson, Corvallis OR; Noeline Myers, Carbondale CO
2C Roy Markham — Sylvia Markham, Montesano WA; Patricia Robbins — Orrin Robbins, Olympia WA
3C Reid Sherwin, Klamath Falls OR; Mark McKechnie — Leah McKechnie, Medford OR; Morgan Hu, Portland OR

Saturday Open Pairs(46 pairs)

- 1A Farid Assemi, Fresno CA; Mark Lair, Canyon TX
2A Jon Gustafson, Manzanita OR; Jim Miller, Ocean Park WA
3A Howard Epley — Karen Epley, Kent WA
1B Vern Swing — Deborah Weiss, Minneapolis MN
2B Shelley Burns, North Vancouver BC; Kevin Raywood, Vancouver BC
3B/1C Claire Valente — Barry Balof, Walla Walla WA
2C David Divine — Anne West, Scottsdale AZ
3C Fay Bronson, Tenino WA; Marion Hull, Forest Grove OR

Saturday Gold Rush Pairs(20 pairs)

- 1C/E Mary Sewell — Ken Zeidman, Portland OR
2C/D David Rogers Oliver Jr. — Linda Bithell Oliver, Trinidad CA
3C Debe Nelson, Timnath CO; Helen Trop-Zell, Incline Village NV
3D/2E Ben Tribelhorn, Portland OR; Sheri Markwardt, Milwaukie OR

Friday-Saturday Morning Swiss Teams(9 teams)

- 1A Joan Millens, Kingston NY; Shan Huang, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Kevin Dwyer — Cecilia Dwyer Rimstedt, Jacksonville FL
2A Jody Williams, San Carlos CA; Marcia Dean — Robert Dean, San Jose CA; Leila Sink — David Helmbold, Los Gatos CA
3A Lily Andre — James Andre, Allyn WA; Richard Morris — Katherine Morris, Beaverton OR
1B/C Tim Berta — Sally Lynum — Vicki Sensiba — Greg Sensiba, Sequim WA
2B Kevin Marnell — Frank Straulemann — Ben Tribelhorn — Angel Almanza, Portland OR; Sheri Markwardt, Milwaukie OR

Saturday Morning Side Pairs(18 pairs)

- 1A/B Linda Kelly — Richard Kelly, Newport WA
2A Eileen Boal, Albany OR; Eileen Milligan, Corvallis OR
3A/2B Sherri Morgan, Eugene OR; Kim Larson, Springfield OR
3B/1C Keld Sorenson — Jeanne Sorenson, Redding CA
2C Lee Stanhope, Mukilteo WA; John Hall, Portland OR

Saturday Morning 499er Pairs(16 pairs)

- 1D/F Barbara Kroecker — Warren Kroecker, King City OR
2D/E Terry Vokos — Peter Vokos, Bend OR
3D Steve Kasner, Bellevue WA; Hank Schouten, Portland OR
3E/2F Ernest Ludington, Salem OR; Bruce Dishman, Gig Harbor WA
3F Leslie Weaver, Bend OR; Sally Jerome, Bellevue WA

Saturday Afternoon Side Pairs(26 pairs)

- 1A Patricia Swan, Bremerton WA; Karen Vaillancourt, Covington WA
2A Sandra Robson, New Westminster BC; Gene Fomin, Renton WA
3A/1B Kathryn Luft — Dennis Hanel, Boise ID
2B Karen Eveland, Lewiston ID; Renee Petersen, Moscow ID
3B Richard Axelson — Nancy Axelson, Ketchikan AK
1C Karen Rise, Leavenworth WA; Karen Madison, Spokane Valley WA
2C Darrel Mooney, Boise ID; Jayne James, Midvale UT
3C Marilyn Duvall, Bellevue WA; Margo Cunningham, Newport OR

Saturday Afternoon 499er Pairs(11 pairs)

- 1D/F Kay Abramowitz — Roy Abramowitz, Portland OR
2D/E Carolyn Wasteneys, Gig Harbor WA; Diane Jones, Silverdale WA
3D Michael Stoner — Judy Stoner, Portland OR
3E/2F Ernest Ludington — Jim Boylan, Salem OR

Saturday Evening Side Pairs(24 pairs)

- 1A Heather McIntosh, Cowichan Bay BC; Nancy Merry, Duncan BC
2-3A John Ashton, Portland OR; Patty Holmes, Las Vegas NV
2-3A Michael Ainsley, Victoria BC; Sheldon Spier, Chemainus BC
1B Heather McIntosh, Cowichan Bay BC; Nancy Merry, Duncan BC
2B Karen Eveland, Lewiston ID; Renee Petersen, Moscow ID
3B Sharon Irwin, Maple Valley WA; Connie Hamm, University Place WA
1C Deanne Takasumi, Tigard OR; Sheryl Williams, West Linn OR
2C Ernest Ludington, Salem OR; David Wigutloff, Astoria OR

Sunday, Oct. 2

Sunday Top-Flight Swiss(34 teams)

- 1A John Lusky — Randy Pickett — John Ashton, Portland OR; Dennis Metcalf, Vancouver WA
2A Joan Millens, Kingston NY; Shan Huang, Palm Beach Gardens FL; Kevin Dwyer — Cecilia Dwyer Rimstedt, Jacksonville FL; Ming Sheng, Los Altos CA
3A Hendrik Sharples, Brush Prairie WA; Gerry Marshall, Calgary AB; Jonathan Steinberg, Toronto ON; Alex Hudson, Morrisville NC
1X Lily Andre — James Andre, Allyn WA; Richard Morris — Katherine Morris, Beaverton OR
2-3X Ben Bomber — Amy Casanova, Portland OR; Kevin Cline — Aaron Mohrman, Seattle WA
2-3X Shelley Burns — Thomas Anderson, North Vancouver BC; Kelvin Raywood, Vancouver BC; Jane Youngberg, Surrey BC
1Y Nelson Davis, Seattle WA; Herman Xiao, Sammamish WA; Lucy Zhong — Jack Qi, North Vancouver BC
2Y Barry Balof — Claire Valente, Walla Walla WA; Kathy O'Malley — Marty O'Malley, Spokane Valley WA

Sunday B Round Robin Teams Bkt 1(7 teams)

- 1 Marilyn Duvall, Bellevue WA; Barry Sorenson — Lucille Sorenson, North Bend OR; Margo Cunningham, Newport OR
2 Margaret Glenn — Mary Aveiro — Benny Evans, Sierra Vista AZ; Carol Erbeck, Tucson AZ
3 Jerome Gordon — Donald Pitt, Salem OR; John Nader — Veronica Deskey, Ferndale WA

Sunday B Round Robin Teams Bkt 2(9 teams)

- 1 Donald Cottam, Puyallup WA; Cecie Vatne, Rochester WA; Ronald Brady, Onalaska WA; Anita Woods, Lacey WA
2 Sheryl Williams, West Linn OR; Deanne Takasumi, Tigard OR; Nely Johnson, Portland OR; Lee Stanhope, Mukilteo WA
3 Sandra Baker, Seaside OR; JoAnn Dawley — John Curtis, Astoria OR; Larry Marshall, Liberty Lake WA

Sunday Fast Pairs(17 pairs)

- 1A/B Elinor Hood, Portland OR; Donald Weber, Vancouver WA
2A Phyllis Rakevich, Tumwater WA; Regenia Butler, Lacey WA
3A Rick Prouser, Portland OR; Tom Joyce, East Hartford CT
2B Patricia Swan, Bremerton WA; Karen Vaillancourt, Covington WA
3B/1C JP Weber — Esther Wiebe, Victoria BC
2C Susan Norton, Spokane WA; Gayle Carlson, Liberty Lake WA

Evening Swiss Teams Wednesday & Thursday



Joe Grue, Robert Morris, Barbara Shukov, Eddie Wold



Sharon Riddle, Susan Servais
Wednesday Morning Side Pairs



Nelson Davis, Herman Xiao
Wednesday Evening Side Pairs



Polly Bullert, Krista Kabacy
Tuesday Afternoon Side Pairs



Rick and Linda Kelly
Saturday Morning Side Pairs



David Platshon, Kent Taylor
Thursday Afternoon 499er Pairs



Leslie Weaver, Ree Tudor
Friday Morning 499er Pairs



Janet and Bill Worobets
Monday Evening 499er Pairs



Vicki and Greg Sensiba
Tuesday Afternoon 499er Pairs



Jenny Webster, Susan Hamilton
1F Monday Evening 499er Pairs



Kathleen and Paul Hess
1F Tuesday Afternoon 499er Pairs



Paul and Barbara Roller
Wednesday Afternoon 199er Pairs



Marsha Infausto, Judy Geary
Friday Afternoon 199er Pairs

Top masterpoint winners

Table with 4 columns of player names, scores, and team names. Includes names like Marty McCune, Sheryl Williams, Paul Reeves, etc.

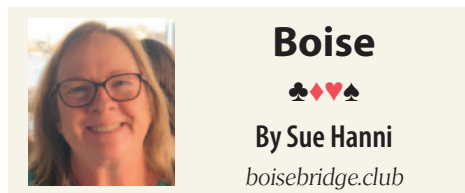
AROUND THE UNITS

Boise sectional nearly breaks even

Our club hosted a successful fall sectional tournament in September. We had 59.5 tables with 49 players earning a collective 321.52 silver points. The event was a financial success as we nearly broke even.

Congratulations to the following unit members who advanced in the ranks: NABC Masters Pat Armstrong, Maryon Evans and Cheryl Maderazo; Bronze Life Master Kay Alspaugh; Silver Life Master **Darrel Mooney**; Gold Life Master **Dick Mallon**; Diamond Life Master **Craig Jones**.

Our unit, in conjunction with the Boise Bridge Co-op, will be celebrating our an-



nual Christmas Party on Dec. 18 at Boise's Basque Center. The festivities include a unit game and wonderful Basque paella luncheon. We will also be electing our 2023 unit officers at this event.

Mark your calendars for the Sweetheart Sectional on Feb. 10-12 at the Boise Airport Holiday Inn Express.

Breakfast gives early unit game a boost; club attendance is up

"If you feed them, they will come." It does turn out that they will come for the breakfast and stay for the bridge. The unit has been searching for ways to increase attendance at the Saturday morning monthly unit game. While there were skeptics, me among them, that doubted food would make a difference, it has been working. Attendance has been much better since the decision was made to provide breakfast prior to the game.

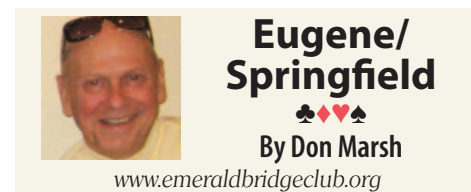
We all applaud these efforts and to continue to make this work going forward, it is important that folks other than just the board members get involved. There is a sign-up sheet at the club. Please consider taking your turn.

Speaking of attendance, the table count for face-to-face bridge at EBC has been on the uptick. A few more tables make a huge difference. We all hope the trend continues.

Elections are upcoming. If you are interested in serving on the board, contact president **Betsy Ovitt** or any board member and let them know of your interest.

Speaking of elections, the board has decided to once again hold the election party at EBC. The days of that event being large enough to hold at Shadow Hills Country Club are probably in the distant past.

Lots of folks journeyed over to the coast and enjoyed playing the Seaside Regional. **John Wolf** and **David Partridge** had a particularly impressive tournament, garnishing a whopping 44.30 gold. They tied for 61st out of 682 masterpoint winners. Congrats, guys. Impressive.

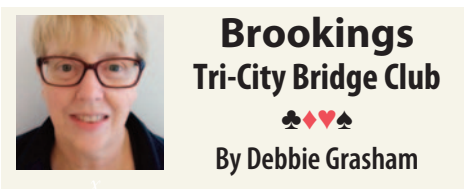


Our very own **Laurie Rowe** is nearing the end of her term as D20's representative to ACBL. Laurie has done way more than her share to promote bridge and give back to the game we all love. We thank Laurie for her service and are certain she will have no trouble filling up all the newly released free time. No doubt partner Bill will raise no objections.

The unit is committed to trying an I/N Regional alongside the Eugene-Springfield Sectional. It is going to take lots and lots of promoting of this event if it is going to be successful. This is another area where more folks helping makes a huge difference. So, yes, you, reading this. Give some thought to how you might help here.

Sadly, we note the passing of our beloved **Beth Bartel**. Beth was an individual about whom no one had a bad thing to say. She was the essence of a good person. She is missed.

When we lose someone from our bridge community, it is always a reminder to appreciate and enjoy the days we have together. Yes, we all come together to play bridge. However, it is the friendships and the camaraderie that we all get to share that is really at the heart of all this. But then, we all know that, right?



Classes keep club going

Well, it's been another not-so-sunny summer here on the coast, but we have had some exciting bridge!

We have six people who took our spring 2022 Learn Bridge in a Day? classes who are regularly playing in our normal Tuesday and Thursday games. And our club was selected by the ACBL for social media advertising for our October set of Learn Bridge in a Day? lessons. The lessons take place over four weeks and we're looking forward to getting some new players who dropped out during covid to return.

Our president, **Kirk Roberts**, became a Silver Life Master in September.

Looking forward to the new year and lots of bridge opportunities.



Still recovering

We are still recovering from the disaster that was covid. We unfortunately lost several players during the pandemic and are currently two to three tables short of our average turnout prior to the pandemic.

We are still trying to get a beginner class organized and hope once that is accomplished, we will be able to increase our membership and participation.

Resolve to play more, volunteer for unit board

Winter has come and the end of the year is nearly upon us. If you are thinking about New Year's resolutions, how about a resolution to play more bridge? We have games somewhere in the unit on every day of the week and all skill levels are welcome. Beat the winter blahs by stopping by for a few sessions of the best game in the world.

Comings and goings

The unit regrets to report the passing of **Dick Pitzer** and **Chet Runyon**. Dick, who died in early September, spent years serving Salem Bridge Club as a game director, club manager and a guy who made things happen. He was also one of the key individuals involved in the acquisition and usage of the dealing machine for SBC and unit games. Chet had played at Oak Valley Bridge Club in McMinnville for the last 15 years before passing away, also in September. While not an ACBL member, he played purely for enjoyment of the game - a reminder that we could all use from time to time. Both will be missed.

In happier news, the unit would like to welcome *four* new members: transfers **Suzanne Dawson** and **Michael Duch** as well as new members **Don Potter** and **Mary Ann Niepoth**. We're delighted to welcome all of you to our bridge community!

Tournament tales

The unit had plenty to celebrate on the tournament trail over the past few months. **Kevin Kacmarynski** kicked things off, partnering with Hemant Bhatia of Washington to win the Friday afternoon open pairs game at the August Vancouver Sectional. Kacmarynski struck again at the Seaside Regional, winning the lower stratification



of the Thursday Mid-Flight Pairs with partner **Allison Walkingshaw** of Corvallis.

Oak Valley Bridge Club (McMinnville) was the source of the true tournament stars for Unit 490 with members from that club picking up seven strat and/or event wins during the quarter. **Mike Fagan** was the local star of the September Portland Sectional, finishing first in C (with partner **Joanne Benkstein**) in the Friday afternoon 0-1000 game and winning the BCD Sunday Swiss with **Mike Green**, **Ben Mitchell** and **Bob DeMaster**.

Susan Hamilton got the unit off to a nice start at Seaside finishing first in C in the Monday night 499er game as well as tied for first in Flight B in the Tuesday morning 499er game with partner **Jenny Webster** from Coos Bay. The big winners at Seaside, though, were **Mike Green** and **Randy Naef**, who continued their lower-bracket knockout dominance with wins in Bracket 3 of the Monday-Tuesday KO and Bracket 3 of the Thursday-Friday KO along with teammates **John Wolf** and **David Partridge** of Eugene. Capping off the week, the mother-daughter duo of **Marion** and **Emily Hull** reprised their Summer Swiss victory with Washington-based teammates **Art Silvas** and **Steve Weinstein** by finishing first in Flight C in the two-session Friday Swiss Teams.

Elections and help wanted

As has been noted in this space before, it takes a village to support a bridge club (or unit!). If you are looking for the opportunity to give back to your local bridge or-

ganization, December is the month to do so. Elections will be held for Unit 490 at the unit game on Dec. 4 (free lesson from Kevin at noon, annual meeting at 1 p.m. with game to follow directly) at our KSAS location.

Salem Bridge Club will also be holding its annual meeting at KSAS prior to the Dec. 16 12:30 p.m. game. Multiple board members have reached the ends of their terms and fresh faces are very welcome! One position of need will be for a new club manager. **Don Pitt**, who has guided the operations of the club through the post-covid reopening years has indicated that he will be stepping down from his position. If you are the kind of person who is interested in leadership and/or has a passion for helping things run smoothly, please reach out to Don or a SBC board member.

Rank changes

The unit would like to congratulate **Myra Falletta** on advancing to Silver Life Master. Myra was the only unit member to achieve a new rank this past quarter.

Unit games

Don Pitt is current leader in the race for the Lewis Award with 13.57 points earned in unit games this year. **Steve Drew** is second, a little less than 3 points behind.

Results

Unit game, Aug. 17 — 1A/1B: Don Pitt — Shirley Carlson, 2-3A Shain Oleson — Randy Jordan, 2-3A/2B: JP Perchellet — Necia Hasbrook.

Unit game, Sept. 4 — 1A: Steve Drew — Kevin Kacmarynski, 2A: Zina Galaka — Susan Palmer, 3A: Laurie Naemura — Michael Keeney.

Unit game, Sept. 21 — 1A/1B: Shain Oleson — Randy Jordan, 2A/2B: Shirley Scofield — Margaret Drips.

Unit game, Oct. 9 — 1A: Steve Drew — Kevin Kacmarynski, 2A/1B: Skip Ludington — Beverly Crowley, 3A/2B: Bill Gille — Diane French.

Unit game, Oct. 19 — 1-2A: Judy Lathrop — Don Brockhaus, Christy Wiegel — Steve Drew.



Club attendance is creeping up

Redding continues to have more players creep into our Monday and Thursday games. We had a team game on Oct. 3 and had 12 teams playing, our best attended Monday game this year. Our Thursday team game will be held toward the end of the month. Thursdays have become fairly consistent with an average of 7.5 tables in attendance.

We're holding two unit championship games each month and have "expanded" to four full tables — great not to have long sitouts with a half-table.

Our Halloween game featured a "scary" theme with a "draw for partner" — cutting the field in half with the upper half players drawing a partner from the scarecrow's hat holding names from the other half. A great time was had by all.

Congrats to **July Ratley** and **PJ Gans** on their 72% game Oct. 20.

AROUND THE UNITS

Bridge classes thriving in Lake Oswego Parks program

The Portland unit is enjoying terrific response to our bridge education efforts in the Lake Oswego area. **Linda Rountree** and **Paula Koeller**, two of our unit board members, started a class at the Adult Community Center in Lake Oswego in September. This bridge learning opportunity is offered and advertised through the Lake Oswego Park and Recreation program and catalogue. The class was limited to 20 participants (five tables), and we filled the class! This is a six-week beginner class. The participants range in age from 51 to 85. About half of the participants have played bridge "long ago," during the Goren age. They are interested in learning to play bridge to keep their minds active and as a social activity. Paula and Linda have been writing our own curriculum because the materials we looked at were too advanced.

The second term of classes through LO Parks and Recreation will begin on Nov. 1 with another beginning bridge class. This class is almost full. The participants who are now in the beginning class want to continue, so we will offer another class, Continuing Bridge. Both classes will meet on Tuesday mornings. It's really exciting to think that we will have 36-40 participants learning to play bridge at the Adult Community Center in Lake Oswego.

There are social bridge games at the Adult Community Center on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, and a large duplicate game on Mondays. Linda hopes many of the class participants will join in one of these games. Some may be interested in playing in other venues including at PBC or online at the Ace.



Portland



By Paul Walker

www.acbld20.org/unit487

Linda's main mantra for the attendees is, "Don't get overwhelmed. Have fun. Learn from your mistakes and savor your successes." Great advice and not just for those new to bridge!

Sectional attendance growing

The next Portland sectional will be held on Jan. 27-29. Please see the sectional flyer in this issue (page 4). As with our past several sectionals, we will hold the tournament through a rental of the Portland Bridge Club at Lloyd Center, where we also have arranged auxiliary space to enable plenty of tables for our attendees.

Our sectionals have been well attended since we resumed in-person tournaments in January 2022. Our most recent event in September was our best attended yet, with 160 tables over the three days. This turnout is up from 152 tables in June and 133 tables in January, so we are making steady progress in growing participation at the in-person competitions. A particular highlight of the September sectional was the terrific turnout for Sunday Swiss competition, with 26 tables of spirited competition, 15 of them BCD teams, which is a really encouraging indication of enthusiasm for the growth of face-to-face play in the Portland area. We look forward to a great event in January!

Pumpkin spice cards? Seeking new ideas to market bridge

The telltale signs of winter are upon us. The temperature outside has dropped. Commercials about the upcoming election dominate the spaces in between popular shows, and the mania known as "pumpkin spice" has come back to haunt us.

Now, I gotta be honest. Just like the McRib sandwich, I am always intrigued when I see the pumpkin spice latte hit the Starbucks menu and I think to myself, "Do I like them? I mean, I like pumpkin pie, so maybe I like them." So, I order it, take a sip, then say, "Nope, too much. Pie is something you have with coffee, not in it."

But even if you disagree with me, and find the PSL to be delicious, one thing I think that we can all agree on, the pumpkin spice cartel is filled with marketing geniuses. They've incorporated their product into more than just lattes: hummus, kombucha, pasta sauce, seltzer, hand sanitizer and even beard oil! We need to poach some of those marketing people and use them to influence people into playing face-to-face bridge. Just imagine if those creative minds were working to promote bridge.

Passings

It seems like every time I write one of these things, I have to talk about someone we have lost. After years of fighting cancer, **Kay Pankratz** died on Oct. 9. She will be missed.



Vancouver/Longview



By Joe Morgan

www.acbld20.org/vbc

Transitioning back to F2F

The Vancouver Bridge Club has been continuing on its road to recovery. Our F2F pair games are being held three times a week, on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, and during the summer we were able to shift our monthly Eight is Enough Swiss team game from online to F2F. Now that the winter is approaching and several of our members are heading south to warmer places, the Eight is Enough game will be once again played online until next spring.

We still struggle with the return of our I/N players to F2F, as for many of them, the reasons for not returning have less to do with safety and more to do with convenience. In addition, it has been very difficult to determine who the F2F bridge players of the future will be.

Our two attempts to recruit new players by providing F2F classes were unsuccessful, with minimal interest shown, but we have not given up. We have set up a subcommittee that will be meeting to determine some out-of-the-box methods to find these future players. I will keep you posted as we learn what works and doesn't work.

70TH HAWAIIAN REGIONAL

Jan. 23-29, 2023

Aloha

NEWCOMERS!

TOURNAMENT CHAIR

Larry Denneau
larryd@hcbua.org
808-436-7881

PARTNERSHIPS

Lily Johannessen
hawaii.regional@gmail.com
808-341-6041

HAWAII PRINCE HOTEL WAIKIKI

100 Holomoana St. • Honolulu, HI 96815
855-622-7558 • reservations@princewaikiki.com
ACBL rate from \$239/night+tax by Dec. 31, 2022

<p>Monday, January 23</p> <p>LANAI Bracketed Knockout Teams 1/3 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Aloha Charity Pairs/Evening Side Game Series 1/5 (unlimited,2000,750) 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Single-Session 299er Pairs (300,100,50,20) 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Tuesday, January 24</p> <p>Two-Session Gold Rush Pairs (750,300) 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Two-Session Stratified Open Pairs (unlimited,3000,1500) 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Morning Side Game Series 1/5 (unl,2000,750) 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Single-Session 299er Pairs (300,100,50,20) 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>MOLOKAI Bracketed Round-Robin Teams 1:30 p.m. & 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>LANAI Bracketed Knockout Teams (cont'd) 2&3/3 1:30 p.m. & 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Afternoon Side Game Series 1/5 (unl,2000,750) 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Single-Session 299er Pairs (300,100,50,20) 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Evening Side Game Series 2/5 (unl,2000,750) 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Wednesday, January 25</p> <p>Two-Session Gold Rush Pairs (750,300) 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Two-Session Stratified Open Pairs (unlimited,3000,1500) 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Morning Side Game Series 2/5 (unl,2000,750) 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Single-Session 299er Pairs (300,100,50,20) 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>OAHU Bracketed Knockout Teams 1&2/4 1:30 p.m. & 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Afternoon Side Game Series 2/5 (unl,2000,750) 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Single-Session 299er Pairs (300,100,50,20) 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Evening Side Game Series 3/5 (unl,2000,750) 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Thursday, January 26</p> <p>Two-Session Gold Rush Pairs (750,300) 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Two-Session Jim Hopkins Stratified Open Pairs (unlimited,3000,1500) 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Morning Side Game Series 3/5 (unl,2000,750) 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Single-Session 299er Pairs (300,100,50,20) 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Thursday, January 26 (continued)</p> <p>MAUI A/X/Y Swiss Teams (unlimited,5000,3000) 1:30 p.m. & 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>MOLOKINI Bracketed Round-Robin Teams (0-2500) 1:30 p.m. & 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>OAHU Bracketed Knockout Teams (cont'd) 3&4/4 1:30 p.m. & 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Afternoon Side Game Series 3/5 (unl,2000,750) 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Single-Session 299er Pairs (300,100,50,20) 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Evening Side Game Series 4/5 (unl,2000,750) 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Friday, January 27</p> <p>Two-Session Gold Rush Pairs (750,300) 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Two-Session Stratified Open Pairs (unlimited,3000,1500) 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Morning Side Game Series 4/5 (unl,2000,750) 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Single-Session 299er Pairs (300,100,50,20) 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>HAWAII Bracketed Knockout Teams 1&2/4 1:30 p.m. & 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Afternoon Side Game Series 4/5 (unl,2000,750) 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Single-Session 299er Pairs (300,100,50,20) 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Evening Side Game Series 5/5 (unl,2000,750) 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>Saturday, January 28</p> <p>Two-Session Stratified Open Pairs (unl,2000,750) 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>KAUAI Bracketed Round-Robin Teams 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>HAWAII Bracketed Knockout Teams (cont'd) 3&4/4 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Morning Side Game Series 5/5 (unl,2000,750) 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Single-Session 299er Pairs 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Afternoon Side Game Series 5/5 (unl,2000,750) 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Single-Session 299er Pairs 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>Sunday, January 29</p> <p>Fast Open Pairs (unl,2000,750) 9:30 a.m. & TBA</p> <p>A/X/Y Swiss Teams (unlimited,5000,3000) 9:30 a.m. & TBA</p> <p>Bracketed Round-Robin Teams (0-2500) 9:30 a.m. & TBA</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; color: purple;">STRATIFICATIONS</p> <p>Strats are based on the average of the pair or team. Bracketed events will have a maximum of eight teams per bracket where possible. Knockouts with one bracket may be handicapped. OAHU and HAWAII knockouts are "Soloway" style, with a two-session qualifying round-robin on the first day.</p> <p>Gold events pay gold only for section tops or two-session overalls. Gold points are awarded for two-session overalls, all section tops in two-session events, and overall ranks in KO events with a bracket ceiling of at least 750 points. All other points are red.</p> <p>Players may earn gold points by playing in at least two games in a side game series and achieving either a strat A section top or the overalls of the event based on the best two percentage games.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; color: purple;">I/N EVENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily I/N games • Gold Rush games • Bracketed Round-Robin Teams (Thursday and Saturday) • Lectures for I/N players
--	--	--

Entry fees: \$15/session; +\$4 per session for unpaid ACBL members; all non-members must join

All Sunday play finished by 5:30 p.m.

DRESS CODE: No bare feet allowed. Bermjuda shorts OK; no short shorts.

Download to your mobile device!



Ask Mac

National tournament director McKenzie Myers answers your bridge questions

Hey Mac:
Do you play Drury in fourth seat?

I sure do! I think Drury is valuable after both third- and fourth-seat major-suit openings. There are hands that are solid limit raises opposite a first- or second-seat opening that would be in danger at the three level opposite a minimum fourth-seat opening. A hand like

♠AK1052 ♥J7 ♦Q974 ♣J5

would not at all be worth opening the bidding in first or second seat, but it's imperative that you open in fourth seat. (Also in third seat, but for slightly different reasons!)

When you have 10 HCP and have seen three passes to you, it's pretty clear that everyone else has about 10 as well. If you pass it out, you get a score of 0, which is better than going minus – but with a hand like the above, knowing partner has ~10 HCP, you're very likely to be able to make two of something. Before Drury came along, people often had the functional choice of passing out a hand or going minus 50 in three of a major. They had a plus score available but couldn't stop low enough to achieve it.

Follow-up question: What type of Drury do you play?

There are two very popular ways to play Drury:

"Regular" Drury*: A 2♣ response by a passed hand to one of a major shows a strong raise for partner's suit.

♦ Opener rebids two of the major to sign off, showing a hand they wouldn't have opened in first or second seat.

♦ Opener rebids 2♦ to show a minimum opening, but one they would have opened in first or second seat.

All other bids are the partnership's normal game try style, as if over 1♠-2♠ or 1♥-2♥.

Two-way Drury: Both 2♣ and 2♦ responses by a passed hand to one of a major show strong raises.

♦ Responder's 2♣ shows exactly three of partner's suit; opener continues as above.

♦ Responder's 2♦ shows four or more of partner's suit; opener bids 2 of his major to show a minimum, otherwise makes a game try.

Either of these work just fine – it just depends on your partnership style and how complicated you want your agreements to be.

Of course, like in a lot of things having to do with bidding, my preferred agreement is neither of the popular ones!

In most of my partnerships I play a very simple structure: 2♦ over one of a major by a passed hand is a strong raise; everything else is natural. Over 2♦, opener signs off in two of their major, or bids something else as a game try.
Why 2♦ and not the more "standard" 2♣? Well, sometimes I hold a hand like
♠J7 ♥Q54 ♦102 ♣AQ10963,
and it's very nice to be able to bid a natural 2♣! Playing one of the more standard Drury options with this hand, I would have to bid 1NT instead. Take a look at my example hand from earlier opposite this hand. 2♣ is a great spot, but 1NT is



TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

DISTRICT 20 REGIONALS & SECTIONALS

Month	Dates	Location
DECEMBER 2022	5–11	Pacific States STaC Local clubs
JANUARY 2023	Jan. 1–May 14	Grand National Teams – A, B, C Online
	7–8	Vancouver Winter I/N Sectional CANCELED Vancouver Bridge Club, Vancouver WA
	20–22	Garden Island Sectional Kauai Phillippine Cultural Center, Lihue HI
	Jan. 23–29	HAWAII REGIONAL Prince Waikiki, Honolulu HI
	27–29	Portland Winter Sectional Portland Bridge Club, Portland OR
FEBRUARY 2023	3–5	Maui Sectional Kenolio Recreation Center, Kihei HI
	10–12	Boise Sectional Holiday Inn Boise Airport
	18–20	Big Island Sectional Makua Lani Christian Academy, Kailua Kona HI
	Feb. 20–26	OREGON TRAIL REGIONAL Vancouver Wash. Hilton, Vancouver WA
MARCH 2023	3–5	Heart of the Valley Sectional Corvallis Community Center, Corvallis OR
	3–5	Honolulu Sectional Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI
	25–26	Grand National Teams – Open Online
	31–2	Seaside Sectional Seaside Convention Center, Seaside OR
	31–2	Golden Clam I/N Regional Seaside Convention Center, Seaside OR
APRIL 2023	TBA	Redding Sectional Win-River Resort & Casino, Redding CA
	TBA	Ontario Sectional TBA, Ontario OR
	15–16	Vancouver Spring Sectional TBA, Vancouver WA
	29–30	Grand National Teams – Open Online
MAY 2023	5–7	Honolulu Sectional Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI
	TBA	Portland Sectional Portland Bridge Club, Portland OR
JUNE 2023	2–4	Eugene Sectional Bushnell University, Eugene OR
	2–4	Eugene I/N Regional Bushnell University, Eugene OR
JULY 2023	7–9	Honolulu Sectional Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI
AUGUST 2023	11–13	Vancouver Spring Sectional TBA, Vancouver WA
SEPTEMBER 2023	8–10	Honolulu Sectional Ala Wai Clubhouse, Honolulu HI

TOURNAMENTS IN NEIGHBORING DISTRICTS

DISTRICT 19: www.d19.org	Jan. 13–15 Feb. 3–5 Feb. 17–19 March 24–26 April 17–23 May 5–7 June 20–25	Vancouver Sectional, Burnaby BC Bellingham Sectional WA Seattle Sectional, Shoreline WA Everett Sectional WA Victoria Regional BC Tri-Cities Sectional, Richland WA Anchorage Regional AK
DISTRICT 21: www.d21acbl.com	Jan. 2–8 Jan. 21–22 Feb. 17–20 March 4–5 March 25–26 April 20–23	Monterey Regional CA San Francisco Sectional CA Fresno Sectional CA Petaluma Sectional CA San Ramon Sectional CA Reno Sectional NV
DISTRICT 18: www.wasumi.org	Jan. 12–15 Jan. 20–22 March 24–26 May 1–7	Missoula Sectional MT Salt Lake City Sectional UT Salt Lake City Sectional UT Regina Regional SK
DISTRICT 17: www.d17acbl.org	Jan. 16–22 Feb. 27–March 5 April 28–30 May 23–29	Albuquerque Regional NM Tucson Regional AZ Phoenix Sectional & I/N Regional AZ Denver Regional CO
DISTRICT 22: acbldistrict22.com/d22	Dec. 12–18 Feb. 17–19 April 3–9	Palm Springs Regional, Rancho Mirage CA Palm Springs Sectional CA San Diego Regional CA

NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Nov. 24 – Dec. 4	Fall 2022	Convention Center, Phoenix AZ
March 9–19	Spring 2023	Marriott/Sheraton, New Orleans LA
July 13–23	Summer 2023	Sheraton, Chicago IL
Nov. 23 – Dec. 3	Fall 2023	Marriott Marquis, Atlanta GA

bad (off the first seven or more red tricks).

Is this hand just a fluke of which suit I picked up? No – if you switch my minor suits and give me

♠J7 ♥Q54 ♦AQ10963 ♣102,

I would have opened 2♦ in the first place – never having to face the problem of partner's third- or fourth-seat 1♠ opening.

Choosing to use 2♦ as your only Drury bid does give up opener's ability to show

two kinds of non-acceptances of the invitation (see above), but I haven't found that to be a big loss. Almost all the time, we are going to end up in two of our major anyway, and two-stepping through 2♦ just gives the opponents another round of bidding to get into our auction.

Do you play Drury on over competition?

When playing 2♦ as the only Drury, I do. Choosing to do so doesn't give much

up. It's just as important to be able to stay low in a competitive auction as it is in a noncompetitive one! I do think when playing 2♣ as Drury or playing two-way Drury, these should be off in competition, as you're now giving a lot up. Especially in competition you want to be able to show a good club suit!

Send questions for Mac to Don Marsh at donmarsh45@comcast.net.