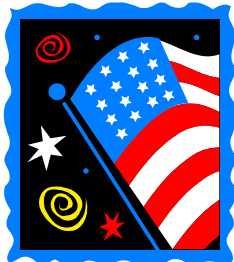


SHUFFLE, DEAL & PLAY

ACBL Unit 354 Newsletter

January 2009



Plan to Play—It's Presidents' Day! Feb. 13-16 at ASU West Campus

By Page Tomkinson

Boo-yah! Bridge players get ready for your big Presidents' Day Phoenix Sectional starting Feb. 13 at the ASU West Campus, 4701 W Thunderbird Drive in Glendale.

That's right—four days of solid bridge played against many top notch winter visitors and players from all over the valley.

Check the flyer on page 7 for the complete schedule. Note the two-session Compact KOs on Monday—a very fun event!

Need a nice partner? (That's all we have!) Many partners and teams matched up at the

Partnership Desk at the last sectional were very successful.

In a "senior moment," don't forget the site is the ASU West Campus. For those of you who are not familiar with the campus, there will be signs showing you where to park and play. For lunch, you can bring your own cherry pie, eat at the school cafeteria, or check out the many spots close by.

Director-in-Charge, Gary Zeiger, will keep us all very presidential. Word has it that Abe Lincoln always shows up with his tall black hat, goatee and all. Win or lose, we know you will have a great time!

Gaer Recognized for Longtime Service

By Marianne Spanier

I was honored to present a special award during the Holiday Election Sectional to one of the Valley's most distinguished players—Jerry Gaer.

Jerry has been one of our most dedicated workers. He has served as president of our unit and has also been tournament chairman. For the past 20 years he has been a member of the National Board of Appeals.

For the last four years, Jerry was on the District 17 Board of Directors representing the interests of duplicate players in the Phoenix area.

He also served as chairman of the Regional Tournament Committee, District Appeals Coordinator, chairman of the District's Grand National Teams,

and a member of the District 17 Executive Committee.

His experience, hard work and good judgment have long been a valuable asset for the ACBL organization and our local unit. In addition, Jerry has earned the title of Grand Life Master.

We extend to you, Jerry Gaer, our appreciation and thanks!



Marianne Spanier with Jerry Gaer at the Holiday Election Sectional. Photo provided by Suzette Wynn

New Board Members Take Office

Outgoing President Kim Corbin announced the results of the recent election for the 2009 Unit 354 Board of Directors.

Incumbents George Drake, Charlie Kelley, JoAnne Lowe, Janet Newman and Angie Ulrey were re-elected for two-year terms, joined by newcomer Sue Sneed. Harriett Motley will be the first alternate in the event of a vacancy on the board.

Returning board members include Rod Bias, Barb Bunnell, Lesley Davis, Jamie Rubenstein, Page Tomkinson and Bob Welch. Their terms expire in 2009. Past President Kim Corbin will serve as Treasurer.

At its next meeting on Jan. 7, the Board will elect the new officers. Results will be reported on the unit website at www.unit354.com.

Phoenix Players Share Obama Bridge Connections

Several Phoenix bridge players have bridge connections to President-Elect Barack Obama.

"I got to meet Obama once when he came in to my duplicate game in Honolulu to pick up his grandfather, Stan Dunham, and I can tell you that Barack seemed very bright and quite nice," said Eunice Towne, one of the Valley's pro teachers.

Obama, then in his early 20's, "told me he was leaning toward a political career after his graduation and wanted to help the needy," said Eunice, a Phoenix instructor at Scottsdale area clubs, who owned the Aloha Nui Bridge Club in Honolulu from 1983 until 1989. She also remembers that Stan "was always a perfect gentleman."

Linda Mitchell, a Scottsdale player and chief ACBL director in Hawaii for 30 years, also came in contact with Obama's grandparents. Her bridge friends in Hawaii recall his grandfather, an avid player, bringing him to the game when he was an energetic little boy.

"His grandfather was always so proud of Barack. We used to pore over photographs he brought to the bridge table," recalls Linda. "Stan was absolutely devoted to his grandson, who was admitted to a very prestigious Honolulu private school, the Punahou, on a scholarship and wound up with straight A's."

Who knows if Barack ever played or will play duplicate, but his grandfather "was a decent player and regular attendee while his grandmother only played occasionally," said Linda.

His beloved grandmother, the first female vice president at First Hawaiian Bank, sadly died the day before his election triumph after an extended illness.

Marianne Spanier, the District 17 Representative for Phoenix, along with her daughter attended one of Obama's town hall meetings when they were in Bend, Ore. last May. They sat four rows behind him and were lucky enough to shake his hand afterwards.

Zeiger Earns Top ACBL Rating



Congratulations go out to Gary Zeiger, ACBL Tournament Director, who was recently promoted to the rank of National Director.

"Gary's selection recognizes his excellent work on many Regionals as well as Assistant-in-Charge for the fall NABCs, including the one just held in Boston," said Jeff Johnston, ACBL Director of Player Services.

Gary, a former Director and Tournament Manager of Unit 354, became a locally rated Director in 1990 and was promoted to Associate National Director in 2002. Zeiger, 55, is married and lives in Phoenix. His daughter, Murphy, is a frequent caddy at our local tournaments.

Table Talk...

By the Master (...JR)



...No Mirage. That WAS Bobby Wolff

No, you weren't seeing things. That was indeed famed Las Vegas pro Bobby Wolff, playing in a morning session at the Holiday Election Sectional at the Doubletree last month. He and his wife, Judy Kay, earned a very respectable 58.87%. Reportedly Wolff, the 30-time World Bridge Champ and former ACBL president, was in the Valley to visit a friend.

Wolff, 76, an original member of the Dallas Aces team, is the author of *The Lone Wolff*. Called the bridge maverick, he began the game at age 12 and is the only individual to win world championships in five different categories.

...All in the Family: Geraldine & Son

Those family playing teams are always great fun to watch. Enjoying themselves at the Holiday Election Sectional last month in Scottsdale were Geraldine Travis of Phoenix and her son, Bill.

"Look, I'm getting to be an old lady and once in a while I get mixed up and forget some of those conventions," laughs Geraldine who

(Continued on page 5)



Bridge-Squad coaches (front row l-r): Earl Hill and Bob Griffin; (middle row l-r): Pat Brish, Jean Bramucci, Julie Urban, Ellie Hutchinson, Trish Heinzman, and Jane Woolley; (back row l-r): Dick Williams, Rick Starbuck, Rod Bias, and Kathy Jensen. (Additional coaches not pictured listed below.)

Youth Bridge Soars Even Higher!

Those Bridge-Squad sessions happening this winter in the west valley continue to spark surprising interest, stoking new hope that the Gen X and Y generations will find duplicate appealing.

"Our attendance was down a bit to 24 kids (six tables), but they are all repeaters. It's great that they keep coming back," said Rod Bias, a Unit 354 Board member and coordinator of the Novice/Youth programs in the unit. "We hope they are having as much fun as we are!"

For the past few weeks, a dedicated crew of volunteers have spent many hours staffing the after-school and early morning bridge sessions, coaching the teens and pre-teens on how to play a rudimentary game.

"I suppose one of the biggest problems we've had is trying to keep the attention of these 7th and 8th graders," said Jane Woolley, a Kiva West coach

who has worked at Dysart Elementary and plans to join other coaches Jan. 6 at El Mirage Elementary.

The Bridge-Squads, including an six-year-old first grader, began playing in October in 80-minute teach-and-play sessions held after school.

The youngsters are using a *MiniBridge* series developed by ACBL and "started off playing basic notrump, but we soon started teaching them something about trumps," explained Jane. The teams have been divided into varsity and junior varsity with their first "tournament" slated for Dec. 16.

"We called it a tournament to create some excitement even though it was similar to their regular sessions. Depending how it goes we may have more," said Rod, noting that participants have been invited to play in a real tournament at the Presidents' Day Sectional Feb.

13-16 at ASU West.

The new session beginning Jan. 6 will have an early 7:00 am start, so the coaches are planning to enforce their own curfew to make sure they are up in time to direct their young charges.

Like the chess clubs and other extracurricular groups, the Bridge-Squads have now adopted their own school mascots, said Jane. "The Eagles Bridge-Squad," for example, is named after the Dysart mascot.

Visit Bridge-Squad Boot Camp:
<http://Bridge-Squad.info>

Volunteer: (623) 444-7960 (Rod) or Bridge-Coach@bridge-Squad.info

Other Kiva West Bridge-Squad coaches not pictured above include: Colleen Armstead, Marilyn Carter, La Vonne Cook, Bill Ellis, Lillian Jones, Kathryn Maurdeff, Ernie Shaw, and Mitchell Weisberg.

Hand Evaluation a Must!

By Ned Kohler

Evaluating Your Hand *Before* a Trump Fit is Found

Hand evaluation starts with point count. Point count is most accurate for bidding NT with two balanced hands, but becomes more inaccurate when either hand has significant distribution and/or you are bidding a suit.

The 4-3-2-1 count is easy but not particularly accurate. Aces are worth more than the standard count, while Queens and Jacks are worth less. You should upgrade or downgrade your hand depending on the high card types if you want to bid more accurately. If you have ten points consisting of AKQJ, it all balances out. AAQ is a plus. four Q's and two Js, however, are a big minus.

Trick question: What is the most undervalued honor? Answer: the 10. Standard count gives no value to 10s but they can be critical. Two 10s are often as good as, if not better than, one J. Add one HCP if you have two 10s, accompanied by another honor in a three-card suit or longer.

Long suits take extra tricks. A 4-card suit has a chance, while a 3-card suit has none. A 5-card or longer suit has a very good chance of taking an extra trick or two. Many hand evaluation methods count one point for each card over five in a "good" suit (i.e. two of the top three or three of the top five honors). It is OK to be a bit aggressive on this.

Note that we are still talking No Trump hand evaluation. **Total Points = HCP + Extra Length Points.**

The next two holdings are harder to quantify but still important.

- Honors in combination are worth more than scattered honors. Axx opposite Kxx is worth two sure tricks. Axx opposite xxx in Spades along with Kxx opposite xxx in Hearts is worth only 1.5 tricks. The King will take a trick only 50% of the time.
- Honors in your long suits are worth more than honors in your short suits.

All that upgrading and adding points was sure fun! Now comes the bad news...to accurately evaluate your hand you also have to know when to downgrade.

- 4333 distribution is lousy, ugly, pernicious, nasty, and miserable...you get the idea. It's a definite minus.

- A hand without Aces is like a town without pity. It isn't very pretty (and another minus).
- Singleton honors (other than the A) deduct a full HCP until partner shows values in the suit.
- Tight honors with no smaller cards (KQ-AJ-KJ-QJ but not AK or AQ) lose a full HCP (until partner shows values in the suit).
- Minor honors in short suits (Qx or Jx) are definite negatives.

Hand Evaluation *After* a Trump Fit is Located

If and when an eight-card or better trump fit is found, you can add points for ruffing values.

Total Points = HCP + Length Points (for side suit) + Support Points. One reasonable way to evaluate support points is:

- For responder with 3-card support:
 - Doubleton = 1 support point
 - Singleton = 2 support points
 - Void = 3 support points
- For responder with 4-card support:
 - Doubleton = 1 support point
 - Singleton = 3 support points
 - Void = 5 support points
- For responder with 5-card support:
 - Doubleton = 1 support point
 - Singleton = 5 support points
 - Void = 8 support points



As opener, if responder's bids indicate extra trump length you can add one extra point for a nine-card fit and three extra points for a ten-card fit.

Hand Re-Evaluation

The value of your honor cards will change during the auction. Minor honors in partner's suits increase in value. Minor honors in your short suits un-bid by partner decrease in value. If partner shows a misfit, your hand decreases in value.

Further re-evaluation is necessary when the opponents bid. Now your position becomes critical. Holding Kx *behind* the opponent bidding is almost as good as an A. If you are *in front of* the bidder, your K decreases in value and may be worthless.

Minor honors in the opponent's suit generally lose value in a suit contract. In a NT contract their value depends on position and how well they are guarded. For NT play holding Q10xx behind the bidder may be almost as effective as AK for stoppers. That's a real bargain for just two HCP!

*Ned's article is based on **More Points Schmointz** by Marty Bergen as well as writings by Mike Lawrence and others.*



New Gold Life Master

Evelyn Quisenberry

New Silver Life Masters

James Apostolina

Bunita Bullard

Lesley Davis

Patricia Heirigs

Mary Ann Schumann

New Bronze Life Masters

Doris Flannigan

Marshall Bofman

New Life Masters

Ron Bunnell

Cheryl La Motta

Patti Weigler

Recent Rank Changes

New NABC Masters

Jane Baker

Barbara Coughlin

Francine Dobkin

Candace Garvey

Ronald Grantz

Mary Hirschfeld

Robert Miller

Fred Sutherland

Kathleen Tracy

New Regional Masters

John Hay

James Vogt

Jeffrey Zeig

New Sectional Masters

Thomas Boates

Robert Cayne

Joan Hamilton

Trish Heinzmann

New Club Masters

William Annos

Jack Gilburne

Deann Greenawalt

Sandra Labute

Susan Lennox

Kathleen Ponce De Leon

Anneke Rutgers

Charles Siggins

Rosamond Stern

New Junior Masters

Laura Altman

Kathy Baumann

Janet Eggen

Linda Fracaro

Guy Gundaker

Milton Hoff

Sheri Martin

Carol Roland

(Table Talk *Continued from page 2*)

watched Bill, a retired Marine Major, roll his eyes a few times at his mom's gaffes. "We did not do as well as I'd hoped, but it was still a lot of fun," she reflected.

...Herzbergs Wow 'Em

What a nice surprise to see Art and Florence Herzberg, the former owners of the Peoria Bridge Studio, at the Holiday Election Sectional. Both have had their share of health problems during the last couple of years, but they were as sharp as ever at the table.

"What ever happened to the story you promised to print on *My Father's War?*" asked the spunky Florence. Well, the article on Art's dramatic war adventures made into a play that was written by their daughter *did* appear on the Unit website, but failed to make wider distribution. We'll try to make it up somehow.

...A Surprise 'Entry' for Page

Congrats again to Page Tomkinson. The lady who mans the partnership desk and organizes the charity events for our unit deserves every bit of

praise she receives. At the Holiday Election Sectional she got a rather astonishing surprise.

A Vancouver, BC player bought Page's \$10 entry for her first KO game even though the mystery woman wasn't on the team. "I just want to do this for Page because she has done so much for me," said the player, who wanted to remain anonymous. We're not sure exactly what Page did...must have been something extra special!

...Bruno Publishes New Book

Steve Bruno, a professional bridge player and teacher from Peoria, recently published his 2nd book, *Team Tactics in Bridge*, which prepares players to win a variety of team games including Swiss, Knockout, Board-a-Match and IMP pairs.

Topics include choosing and maintaining good relationships with partners and teammates and strategy when you are favored, evenly matched or the underdogs. Bruno also discusses adjusting strategy during the second half of the match and offers tools and gadgets to give you the edge and ways to beat superior teams

Bruno, an Emerald Life Master, wrote his first book, *2/1 Game Force: An Introduction* with Max Hardy in 1993.

Top Tips Enhance Tournament Experience

By Lesley Davis

As the outgoing Tournament Chair, I'm offering my favorite tips for getting the most out of your tournament time.

1. **Dress for Success.** Setting the perfect room temperature is impossible. Two of us live in my home and we can't even agree. Imagine trying to please a huge room of bridge players! **Wear layers...**even in summer.

2. **The Early Bird Catches the Worm.** Parking can sometimes be a challenge. **Plan to arrive early.** Take advantage of the extra time to discuss interesting bridge hands.

3. **Bailout.** These tournaments are put on by hardworking **volunteers**. If you come across a problem, try to solve it yourself. If you see that help is needed, get involved and make a difference.

If you disagree with something we're doing, by all means offer a constructive option. You don't have to be on the Board to lend a helping hand.

4. **Coffee.** The hotels charge a fortune to provide coffee and hot water. Unfortunately, our limited budget only allows us to offer coffee in the mornings. Bring your own from home if you want more.



Due to budget and hotel restraints, we can only provide donuts at our Regional, not at any of the Sectionals.

5. **Get Physical.** At the end of the tournament we always have lots to clean up. You can help out by closing your bidding boxes, folding up your tables and emptying the trash cans at your table. This will save your hard-working Board time and help them get home at a reasonable hour.

I wish much good luck and winning cards to Charlie Kelley, JoAnne Lowe and Janet Newman, incoming Tournament Chairs.

Congratulations to the 2008 Player of the Year Winners!

The following players won the most points at our four sectionals in 2008 and will be recognized at the Presidents' Day Tournament. In 2009, we're slightly modifying the flight stratifications: Flight A (1500+), Flight B (500-1500), Flight C (100-500) and Flight D (0-100).

Flight A (1000+ MPs)

1. Marianne Spanier	91.06
2. Joan Ivey	90.66
3. Ernie Ivey	90.66
4. Bud Marsh	86.66
5. Ben Blacik	68.38
6. Michael Flanagan	64.39
7. Kenneth Klein	59.53
8. Ron Fischer	56.47
9. Steve Scott	56.26
10. Suzette Wynn	56.26



Flight C (100—300 MPs)

1. Rodney Bias	32.93
2. Kathleen Tracy	19.25
3. Bill Berry	17.76
4. Irene Bates	17.25
5. Ora Kintz	17.11
6. Jackie Wielgosz	16.60
7. James Rowland	15.49
8. Pat Smith	14.60
9. Nancy Motlong	14.08
10. Paul Weader	14.03

Flight B (300—1000 MPs)

1. James Hooker	61.40
2. Mary Fisher	29.95
3. Roger Siegel	27.68
4. Lesley Davis	26.27
5. Ken Batko	23.02
6. Robert Galler	22.36
7. Calvin Marvin	21.61
8. Charles Kelley	21.29
9. Ali Raza	21.08
10. Marshall Bofman	20.58

Flight D (0—100 MPs)

1. Andrew Huang	17.10
2. Vivian Jacobozzi	16.47
3. Larry Haddy	13.71
4. James Vogt	11.91
5. Chuck Siggins	11.02
6. Jason Schroeder	10.33
7. Susan Kay Schultz	9.61
8. Alan Lee	9.37
9. Rosamond Stern	8.74
10. Garrison Singer	8.71

PROUD TO BE AMERICAN

PHOENIX PRESIDENTS' DAY



SECTIONAL

February 13 - 16, 2009

ASU West Campus

4701 West Thunderbird Drive
Glendale, AZ 85306 (602) 543-7751

Friday, Feb 13

10 am & 3 pm
10 am & 3 pm
7:30 pm
7:30 pm

Stratified Open Pairs
Stratified 199er Pairs
Stratified Open Pairs
Silver Bracketed KOs

Single Sessions
Single Sessions
Single Session
1st Round

Saturday, Feb 14

10 am & 3 pm
10 am & 3 pm
10 am & 3 pm

Stratified Open Pairs
Stratified 199er Pairs
Silver Bracketed KOs (*cont'd*)

Single Sessions
Single Sessions
2nd and 3rd Rounds

Sunday, Feb 15

10 am & TBD after lunch break
10 am & TBD after lunch break

Strati-Flighted Swiss Teams
Stratified 199er Swiss Teams

2 Session Event
Single Sessions

Monday, Feb 16

10 am & 3 pm
10 am & 3 pm
10 am & 3 pm

Stratified Open Pairs
Stratified 199er Pairs
Compact KOs

Single Sessions
Single Sessions
2 Session Event

Stratified Events:

A = 1500+ D = 100-200
B = 500-1500 E = 50-100
C = 0-500 F = 0-50

Strati-Flighted Events:

A = 5000+ B = 1000-1500
X = 0-5000 C = 500-1000
D = 0-500

Entry Fees:

\$11 per session for paid up members
\$12 for non or unpaid ACBL members
Members with < 10 MPs play FREE!

Tournament Tri-Chairs

Charles Kelley JoAnne Lowe Janet Newman
(480) 513-7966 (480) 836-7296 (480) 326-7144
cek99999@cox.net pnutlowe@cox.net j2newman@cox.net

Partnerships

Page Tomkinson
(480) 948-9217
Kittypage3@aol.com

Director In Charge

Gary Zeiger

www.unit354.com

Sanction # S0902047

KO teams: Brackets will be based on average MPs for all team members. Top bracket may be handicapped.

- Easy access for the handicapped
- Hospitality breaks every session
- Non-smoking facility
- No alcohol allowed on campus

Club News

DotyBridge—Scottsdale

By George Doty

The new year brings special honors for Jan Bricklin, a major force in promoting bridge in the Valley. Jan retired in November but has agreed to keep her hand in the business by directing our Monday and Wednesday games.

Jan has long been a positive fixture in supporting bridge, first by joining with her late husband, Al, in founding the Scottsdale Bridge Club 20 years ago. Last year it became **Doty-Bridge-Scottsdale**.

When she is not directing or playing bridge with her many friends, we expect she will use some of her free time to teach her two grandchildren the game.

We are fortunate that Tom Windler has agreed to become our new manager. Tom has an

extensive background in the bridge world having directed games in California for many years before moving to Scottsdale. He will direct games four days a week and has many ideas for growing our base of players.

In addition to an expanded set of novice and intermediate games, Tom has started a Thursday night game. Like our Saturday afternoon game, every Thursday evening game this winter will be a Charity Game. We will also be offering a reduced card fee of \$8.50 for that game which means more master points for less money!!!

Bridge lessons for novice players continue to be a major focus of our club. Kim Corbin and Donna Johnson are planning an extensive series of classes for students at all skill levels.

We are also excited about our new three-day duplicate immersion class. Taught by George Doty and designed for students with some knowledge of bridge, this course mixes instruction in the morning with duplicate play in the afternoon. The course will be held Jan. 7-9.

On Jan. 10 Wayne Sands will be offering a one-day seminar on a topic of importance to all bridge players, **The Great House of No Trump**. Wayne will be joined by an amazing panel of bridge experts. Participants will have an opportunity to put what they learn in the morning into practice in a duplicate game that afternoon.

Up-to-date information on our schedule of games and lessons can be found on our website at www.dotybridge.com.

Brain Sport Bridge Club

By Ava Lampert

Brain Sport Bridge Club is holding Charity Games every Monday and Tuesday at 9:30 and 1:00. The points are greater and the club will pay all charity fees.

We will also offer beginning bridge lessons taught by Eunice Towne starting on Jan. 7 for four weeks at \$50. On Saturday, Jan. 24, we will be holding a Swiss Team Game.

We thank you for all your support and wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year!



Black Mountain Bridge Club

By Tim Rumoshosky

Tired of holidays? We won't be celebrating St. Patrick's Day on Mar. 17 with a lot of food. We will, however, offer good company and good bridge with an ACBL-wide charity game at 6:30 that evening.

Save some weight and money (even this charity game is only five bucks) plus there's a printout with expert analysis of the hands for the evening. Reservations are a must—send an email to: reservations@blackmtnbridge.com.

We have games every Monday except for holidays in addition to selected other nights. We start at 6:30 and are out around 9:30. Games are \$5 (including most of the special ones) and are open and stratified. Go to www.blackmtnbridge.com.

AZ BridgeWorks

By Joy Balsler

Our club's representation in the overalls during the most recent Holiday STaC Week, Dec. 8-14, was enviable. **AZ BridgeWorks** listed players in the overalls every session.

Barbara Flanagan managed to collect two first overalls. Playing on Dec. 8 with Linda Mitchell, she tied for first in the Conference among 698 tables. Then, on Dec. 12, she took first overall among 763 playing with her husband, Michael. Two 70% games in one STaC week is outstanding!

Congratulations to all the overall winners in the 2008 Holiday STaC games.

Our annual holiday Toy Drive and fundraiser for Logan's Playground was an amazing success. Our patrons donated a truckload of toys that John Vaneerden collected and assisted in distributing. We raffled one of Clark Ransom's doodle drawings during our holiday party Dec. 17 and raised over \$340 in donations. Our heartfelt thanks to all who supported and donated to the Toy Drive.

Our annual **Calcutta Incredible** is tentatively scheduled for Apr. 26, during ACBL Charity Month. All proceeds will go to Logan's Playground. This is our third time to run a Calcutta in the Spring, and it's turning into quite an event.

Thanks to all the mentors for their support of our Novice/Mentor program. Stephanie Haddy and Nancy Goulet have donated much time and effort to enhance this program. They are busy planning the rest of the games in 2009 to include another **Eight is Enough** Swiss event on Mar. 5.

January is chock full of special games with enhanced points. Two club championships, two Unit Wide games, the Novice/Mentor game on Jan. 8; a Membership game on Jan. 10; a Grand National Team club qualifier on Jan. 25, and an Upgraded Club Championship four days later. On Jan. 31 we host the ACBL Wide International Fund Game.

Prior to the President's Day Sectional in February, **AZ BridgeWorks** will hold two club championships and a Unit Wide game plus a Novice/Mentor event on Feb. 5.

Our line-up of instructors and classes in January is awesome. Stephanie Haddy will teach beginners on Monday evenings, Adele Verkamp will again keep you on your toes with her workshops Monday thru Wednesday and Jerry Gaer will be on hand Thursday mornings for his much anticipated class, *Play of the Hand*. Finally, Eunice Towne will offer her class *Popular Conventions* on Friday mornings.

Check it all out at www.azbridge.com.

Peoria Bridge Studio

By Barbara Schooley

What's in store for The Studio players in the new year? Lots of great games, hospitality, great fun and good health!

We hope that your New Year's and Christmas parties were festive and that everyone has a healthy and prosperous 2009.

Our big Christmas party on Dec. 13 with fantastic cooks, generous patrons, great food and fun had a big turnout.

Our first Swiss Team event is scheduled for Jan. 10 starting at noon. Sign up sheets are in the club so be

sure to gather your team.

Jim Woodside will be presenting his 2/1 class starting Jan. 10. Sign up early so that he can plan how many booklets to prepare. Anyone who took his class last year will tell you he has much knowledge to pass on.

George's classes are progressing nicely, and he is launching Beginner's classes for 2/1 in January. He also will be doing Teen Talk, a journey into the world of conventions.

The studio will be closed during the Presidents' Day Tournament Feb. 13-16 so we can all play at that great venue at ASU West campus. We hope to see you all there.

Kiva West

By Pauline Miller

The "8-Point Team" game as designated by the ACBL was won by Ken and Mary Boyd and Mitch Weisberg and Joe Kelso. The jury's still out on the popularity and future of that game.

Wow, the annual holiday party Dec. 10 was a huge success thanks to June Heuser and her capable committee! They did a smashup job with the delicious food and decorations for the 140 who attended.

Thanks to Rick Starbuck who has agreed to serve as club president for another year. He ran a very smooth organization during 2008. Hats off to Rick and the whole board!

Unit Wide Games

Jan 6 ♠ Jan 21 ♥ Feb 6 ♦ Feb 28 ♣ Mar 10 ♠ Mar 25 ♥ Apr 7 ♦ Apr 25 ♣

Upcoming Area Tournaments

Jan 8-11	Tucson Winter Sectional	Holiday Inn Palo Verde, Tucson, AZ
Jan 12-18	Las Vegas Glitter Gulch Sectional	Riviera Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, NV
Jan 16-19	London Bridge Sectional	Lake Havasu City, AZ
Jan 19-25	<i>Navajo Trail Regional</i>	<i>Marriott Pyramid, Albuquerque, NM</i>
Feb 5-8	Yuma Sunshine Sectional	Holiday Inn, Yuma, AZ
Feb 13-16	Phoenix Presidents' Day Sectional	ASU West Campus, Glendale, AZ
Feb 19-22	<i>Tucson I/N Regional</i>	<i>Tucson, AZ</i>
Feb 27-Mar 1	San Diego Winter Sectional	Adventures in Bridge, San Diego, CA
Mar 6-8	Sedona Sectional	TOURNAMENT CANCELLED
Apr 1-5	<i>Mesa Senior RoadRunner Regional</i>	<i>Crowne Plaza, Chandler, AZ</i>
Apr 3-5	Chandler Sectional	San Marcos Hotel, Chandler, AZ
Apr 16-19	Tucson Spring Sectional	Holiday Inn Palo Verde Tucson, AZ
May 4-10	Great Western Spring STaC	Local Clubs
May 15-17	Phoenix Silver Sun Sectional	DoubleTree Hotel, Scottsdale

In Memory...



PHIL GUPTIL Valley players are mourning the death of Phil Guptil, a renowned Phoenix player and former owner of the old *Bridge Center* club on Camelback. Phil, who died Nov. 13, had been in poor health for some time. He owned the club from 1973 to 1984 before selling it to Jim Cox, a retired ACBL Tournament Director and current member of the staff at **AZ BridgeWorks**.

From 1973-1981, Phil was the ACBL's chief "trouble shooter," helping turn around clubs experiencing financial, personnel or site difficulties.

Survivors include his longtime companion, Estella Schotz of Phoenix. He will be missed.

Estie wishes to express her thanks to the bridge community for all the cards and phone calls she received during her recent loss. She deeply appreciates the support.

Condolences

We extend sincere condolences to Tom Winder, Director at **Doty-Bridge Scottsdale** on the recent loss of his father. He was unable to attend the Dec. 19 Holiday Party celebration as he was out of town with his family.

Unit 354 Website



Want to be in the know? Check out the latest bridge news and information. Go to www.Unit354.com.

Correction

Golf was the favorite sport of the late Jean Gerrie-Benjamin of Scottsdale. Incorrect information was listed in the September issue of **Shuffle Deal & Play**. We apologize for the error.

Clubs with Daily Games**AZ BridgeWorks**

7540 East 6th Avenue
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
Owner: Joy Balsler
www.azbridge.com
(480) 990-3999

Brain Sport Bridge Club

9619 N. Hayden Rd. # 105
Mountain View Plaza
Scottsdale, AZ 85258
Owner: Ava Lampert
(480) 607-5505

DotyBridge—Scottsdale

7000 E Shea Blvd. #1810
Scottsdale, AZ 85254
Owner: George Doty
www.dotybridge.com
(480) 443-3850

Kiva West DBC

Beardsley Recreation Center
12755 Beardsley Road
Sun City West, AZ 85375
Manager: Nancy Smith
Invitational
(623) 584-6663

The Peoria Bridge Studio

9720 W Peoria Ave. #104
Peoria, AZ 85345
Owners: Barb Schooley and
George Mraz
thepeoriabridgestudio.com
(623) 974-9080

Clubs with Weekly Games**Black Mountain Bridge Club**

Terravita Clubhouse
34034 N. 69th Way
Scottsdale, AZ 85262
Director: Tim Rumoshosky
• Mondays 6:30 pm
Reservations required via email
www.blackmtnbridge.com

Fountain Hills DBC

13011 N La Montana Dr.
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268
Owner: Dee Harden
• Mondays 12:00 pm
Reservations required
(480) 816-9657

Granite Reef Bridge Club

Granite Reef Senior Center
1700 N Granite Reef Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85257
Director: Kay Glantz
• Tuesdays 6:30 pm
Game limited to 0-1500 Mps
(480) 396-3304

**Lakeview Recreation
Center (Sun City DBC)**

10626 West Thunderbird Road
Sun City, AZ 85372
Manager: Helen Koppel
• Mondays 12:30 pm
Invitational—Guests Welcome
(623) 876-4027

**Marinette Recreation
Center (Sun City II DBC)**

9860 West Union Hills Dr.
Sun City, AZ 85373
Manager: Helen Koppel
• Thursdays 12:30 pm
Invitational—Guests Welcome
(623) 876-4027

Pebble Creek DBC

3289 N. Snead
Goodyear, AZ 85338
Manager: Sue Woodard
• Mondays 1:00 pm
• Thursdays 6:00 pm
Pebble Creek Residents only
(623) 935-7327

Scottsdale House

4800 N. 68th St.
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
Director: Rick Hunt
• Thursdays 7:00 pm
Invitational-reservations required
(480) 941-8135

Sun City Grand Club

Chaparral Center
Surprise, AZ 85374
• Wednesdays 12:30 pm
• Sundays 2:00 pm
Manager: Wally Hellman
(623) 214-2243

Westbrook Village DBC

Lakes Recreation Center
18826 N. 94th Ave.
Peoria, AZ 85382
Director: Joan Du Chemin
• Mondays 12:30 pm
• Thursdays 6:00 pm
Invitational
(623) 566-1046

Shuffle Deal & Play**Master Editor**

Jamie Rubenstein
(480) 941-8135
Jamie7539@aol.com

Managing Editor

Barbara Bunnell
(480) 219-1703
Barb.Bunnell@gmail.com

ACBL Unit 354 Newsletter

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Scottsdale, AZ 85251



Recent 70% Games * = supervised game

AZ Bridgeworks

11-08	72.12%	Ken Barbour & Scott Donaldson
11-12	70.83%	Ed Lucas III & Ron Fischer
11-17	71.06%	Ed Lucas III & Ron Fischer
12-08	70.83%	Faye Apt & Estela Schotz
12-08	73.81%	Linda Mitchell & Barbara Flanagan
12-12	71.53%	Kathy Schenk & Ken Batko
12-12	73.21%	Michael & Barbara Flanagan
12-22	70.00%	Mike Ryan & Keith Hilzendeger *

Black Mountain Bridge Club

11-15	70.83%	Ron & Barbara Bunnell
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Granite Reef Bridge Club

12-16	72.32%	Tom & Jean Berringer
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Kiva West

10-24	72.45%	Susan Abrams & Norm Rosen
10-25	71.66%	Jean Bramucci & Martha Owen
10-30	70.88%	Faye Cerbins & Careen Keith
12-22	73.15%	Martin & Ann Hauser

The Peoria Bridge Studio

11-19	73.00%	Edie & Clayton Parker
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Directory Update

Nancy Goulet is coordinating a special ad called **Friends of Bridge** in the new directory. For just \$5, you can add your name to the growing list of local supporters of bridge.

Contact Nancy at (480) 451-0725 for more information. **Act now! The deadline is Jan. 15!**

The directory is in the final stages of layout for printing. Rosters were made available in all the local clubs during the month of December.

The directories will be distributed at the Presidents' Day Tournament Feb 13-16 and available at local clubs after that.



Do you love computers? Do you enjoy bridge? Do you have some extra free time?

The unit is on the lookout for a new webmaster, someone with computer skills who enjoys keeping track of all the happenings in our local bridge world.

Contact Barb Bunnell at (480) 219-1703 or barb.bunnell@gmail.com for more information.