



SPECIAL EVENTS REPORT

Our annual **Sectional Tournament** was held at the Weeks Center October 14 - 16. Attendance was 159 tables, 5 fewer than last year. Attendance at all ACBL Sectionals has been waning for a number of years so this is not at all surprising. This three percent decline is less than most Sectionals have experienced. Despite the decline, Dorothy reports preliminary financial results are a profit of around \$500, way more than last year. This is primarily because of two changes. First, we charged \$5.00 for lunch on Friday and Saturday but subsidized the actual cost. Second, Entry Fees for a few of the games were increased \$1.00 per person.

In all, the Tournament was a nice success. I would like to thank our volunteers who made this happen. Steve Banwarth -- Tournament Chair, Pat Beibel – Food & Beverage, and John Pickett – Set Up & Take Down, and our Artiste en residence Lynn Pope. And, of course, our Tournament Director, Alan Brooks who, as usual, did an outstanding job. Club members lending helping hands were Linda Knox, Cathy Lindler, Jesse Roach, Ernie Levinson, Mark Carney, Chuck Herbst, Anita Romfro, and Mike McComb. If I missed anyone, don't hesitate to blame Steve.

Oh yeah, it was a bridge tournament. So, who did good? Well, many. Due to space constraints, I will only mention 1st or 2nd Overall and Flight Winners. In the four pairs events: Raj Iyer – 2nd overall, Flight B winners – Lynn Mullins, Jesse Roach, Jay Jacobs, Dorothy Johnson, Christine Gasperini and Dori Cartright, Flight C winners – Jim Gossage (thrice), Pat Beibel (twice), Steve Banwarth, Lynn Pope, and Sandy Perkins, and Flight D – Jamie Knudsen. In the Sunday Swiss, Greg Roberts – 1st overall, Raj Iyer – 2nd overall. Flight B winners – Bill and BB McGhee, Rose Coldiron and Phyllis Pellarin. Flight C winners – Jay Jacobs, Madhu Suchak, Tom Supensky and Lauren Alexander. So, congratulations to all with a special shout out to our Flight C players who really killed it.

On September 30 we had our first ever **Individual Game** at the club. While Marilou and I were disappointed at not being able to play due to illness, I would pronounce the game a success. We had 40 members participate. I did an email survey asking for feedback and received a 33% response. Of those responding, over 90% were positive, so this will not be the first and last. Oh, another bridge game – the winners were Greg Roberts – 1st overall, Diane Davies – 2nd overall and 1st in Flight B, and Judy Anderson – 1st in Flight C. Thanks to everyone for giving this event a try.

GAMES IN NOVEMBER (PLEASE READ ME)

On addition to our usual three Charity Games, November features two Club Championship and two somewhat unusual game types. First, an Upgraded Club Championship, awarded to the club for recruiting ten new ACBL members. Second, three Membership Games. OK, here comes the **READ ME** part. Membership Games are just that, only ACBL Members in good standing are eligible to win Masterpoints. Non members **AND THEIR PARTNERS** are ineligible to win points. So, what makes these four games unusual? Well, they award extra Masterpoints but do not cost the club anything, a truly rare bird in ACBL land.

Finally, we will also have our last Pro – Am of the year. It will be November 30. A signup sheet will be available in early November. Game fee will be \$1.00. Next year there will be three Pro – Ams, one each on a fifth Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Reminders

- Our annual Holiday and Volunteer Appreciation Party will be held Wednesday, December 14 at the Woodside Plantation Country Club and consist of an afternoon bridge game followed by a short chit-chat and social period followed by dinner. Details and signup are in our near future.
- Pro-Am game: November 30

Game Schedule - November 2016

Monday 1:30pm	Wednesday 1:30pm	Friday 1:30pm
	2-Nov Open Pairs!	4-Nov Open Pairs#
7-Nov Open Pairs#	9-Nov Open Pairs\$	11-Nov Open Pairs!
14-Nov Open Pairs\$	16-Nov Open Pairs#	18-Nov Open Pairs\$
21-Nov Open Pairs!	23-Nov Open Pairs	25-Nov Open Pairs
28-Nov Open Pairs	30-Nov PRO-AM	
! = Charity Game	# = Club Championship	\$ = Membership Game

DON'T ASK ---- DON'T TELL

Let's set the scene. You are going into round ten of a thirteen round game. Your next pair of friendly opponents arrives at your table and sits down. Righty (Right Hand Opponent) says to you "What did you do on Board 22?" You look in your individual score sheet and answer "They bid four spades and made six." Righty now says, somewhat smugly, "Well, I bid six and made it." Fair enough you think, and move on to start play.

So, what's wrong with this picture?

Well, remarkably, in three short sentences spanning probably less than twenty seconds, we have two violations of the rules governing duplicate bridge and a zero tolerance violation.

What! You must be #@!\$%* crazy. What are you talking about!!!!!!
Ah, so glad you asked. Let me explain.

The first sentence is seeking unauthorized information. No one is entitled to any information that is not available to everyone, so seeking it is a real no-no.

The second sentence is giving unauthorized information, which is, of course, also a violation of the duplicate bridge laws. Strangely, the first sentence could also be giving unauthorized information. Say Righty asks the above question and you say you haven't played it yet. Guess what, you have now been given unauthorized information. You now know that Board 22 is somewhat out of the ordinary, which you are not allowed to know.

Sentence three is not so complicated, it's simple gloating which is a violation of any zero tolerance policy ever written.

As far as I can figure, there are only two possible reasons to ask what someone did on a board. First, to obtain unauthorized information to help you gauge how well you are doing. Second, to give yourself the opportunity to let other folks know how smart you are. Obviously, this is gloating, a zero tolerance violation and a waste of time. I mean, we already know how brilliant you are from the numerous times you have told us.

Do I really think this is such a big deal? No, but it is the tippity-top of the iceberg known as unauthorized information. Creating, seeking, or using unauthorized information, plus slow play are the two main banes of our great game. Maybe seeing the tip of the iceberg can help us avoid a Titanic problem.

There's an easy fix. Don't Ask, and if you are asked, Don't Tell.

GNT QUALIFICATION GAME

DECEMBER 9th

The Friday, December 9th Team Game will be a Qualifying Game for the 2017 Grand National Teams. This is one of the two "Grass Roots" Events sponsored by the ABCL. The **Perfect Ten format will not apply** since the strats are set by the ACBL. They are, based on highest team member, Flight A – unlimited, Flight B – 2500, and Flight C – Non Life Master under 500.

Masterpoints awards are half red/ half black at 85% Sectional Rating.

Qualifying teams are eligible to play in the District finals, and, if successful, at the Summer Nationals in Toronto. District winners will also receive a stipend to help offset costs of attending the Nationals if they do so.

BOARD MEMBER NOMINATIONS

In January we lose two of our more experienced board members. Bonnie Fabian and Jay Jacobs, having served two consecutive elected terms, are leaving the Board due to our term limit rules.

A Nominating Committee of Bonnie and Jack Cornell has been established to accept nominations to fill these two vacancies. If you are interested in running for the Board, simply talk to one of them. For additional information on the position, please talk to me or any other Board Member.

What are the requirements to be a Board Member? Only one, a desire to help your club be the best it can be for all of our members. What do the Board Members get? Well, there is no financial remuneration, but that is more than made up for by the complete lack of perks.

Really, I would be thrilled if some of you who have never thought about doing this would consider giving it a shot.

AIKEN BRIDGE CLUB

Club Manager.....Ron Jaeger
(803-514-2681)
Treasurer.....Mike McComb
Partnerships.....Maryilyn Sudlow
(803-649-4396)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ron Jaeger	Sedley Roach
Mike McComb	Bonnie Fabian
Jay Jacobs	Kay Lawton
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