

TRICKS AND TREATS

For Members of the Columbia Duplicate Bridge Club

(Calendar On-line at www.cbcbbridge.com)

Our Birthday party for April on Saturday the 11th was a Cats theme thanks to hostess, **Harriett Blasetti** and all the rest of you cats. Congratulations to **Marika Hallosey** and **Tommy Overby** for winning the Birthday Charity event.

N/S	Charity Game 11 tables	E/W
1) Marika Hallosy/Tommy Overby	137.50	Ken Fasching/Brian Lipscomb 134.00
2) Gwen Beckman/Joyce Lauterbach	122.50	Pat Lauterbach/Pat Webb 129.50
3) Linda York/Ed Scheiblich	117.50	Frazer McCrory/Leck Mason 114.50
4) Brent Holcomb/Rosa Shaw	116.00	Roni Keisler/Jack Wilkinson 112.50

There will be an ACBL-wide Fund game Wednesday afternoon May 13. Pre-duplicated hands, analysis booklet \$7/person entry.

Our annual anniversary party will be Thursday June 18. **Gwen Beckman, Margaret Hill and Lil Hopkins** will be our hosts. *Please give them any help they ask for.*

The club's annual business meeting will be Monday May 11, 6:30 at the CSC. It is important that we have a quorum of the club at the meeting. We will be voting for officers and Board members for the coming year. Please plan to attend and stay for the game after. **Morris Mitchum** will try to put together a stand-by partner system for the club games-if you're willing to stand by, give him a call at 429-0784

Moving Up Jr. Master-Susan Peterson

Our New Bronze Life Masters Congratulations to **Ed and Sheelagh Young!**

Our friends at CSC need a little help in funding. There are **Belk's** sale coupons available at the director desk. They entitle you to 20-50% off on rarely discounted brands on Saturday May 2. There is a drawing for door prizes. The cost is \$5 which is refunded on your first purchase on that Saturday. Hit the sale before or after the game!!

We are coming to the end of the club year (May 31) and dues are due again. For those of you who joined recently and paid a fraction of the \$15 for single or \$28/couple, our year runs from June 1 2009 to May 31 2010. Please fill out the coupon and return to the game director or mail to Pat Webb, 505 Moss Creek Drive, Cayce, SC 29033. For your dues-you get on the phone list, my deathless prose each month, and free plays at the Christmas and summer Anniversary Party and the Saturday Birthday party of your birth month. Early does it!!

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

ADDRESS _____

Birth Month(s) _____ e-mail _____

I would like to thank all for their cards, calls and prayers during my recent illness. It meant so much to me. **Connie Moody**

DaMaris Rorie would like to thank all those at the TriCity Sectional for coming. Especially **Harriet Blasetti** on hospitality, **Rosa Shaw** and **Brent Holcomb** who worked both on partnerships and setup/cleanup. Those who brought treats and worked with the I/N players.

Congratulations! To **Ellie Hack** and **Roni Keisler** who had a 67.59 % game to win the first pairs event at the Tricity Sectional. A link to the complete results is at CBCbridge.com,

OK, you've had the basic bridge lessons (or equivalent) on Saturday mornings and seminars on Thursday nights and supervised play on Wednesday. Maybe dipped into a few club games. At this point you have **Bridge 2.0**. You have enough to play the game and have a good time-your learning curve is taking off. Now for the warning-in order to advance, you're going to have to at least modify, if not discard some of what you were taught to get you started. Bridge isn't a straightjacket or a 'cookbook' game, but a game of judgment and adaptation. You're going to be re-tooling the system as you see how the parts can work more efficiently. Just as for instance: Most of you were taught to ignore interference and just bid a four-card major if your partner opened. This is what programmers would call a 'quick and dirty' solution. If you ask any of the columnists at the Bulletin, from Eric Kokish to Larry Cohen to Jerry Helms, they will tell you that bidding a major after your partner opens and opponent doubles or overcalls, that is a five card suit or at least AK(Q)x if it's four cards. Sometimes four works out-but very often it's critical that partner knows you have five-or not. Then there is the concept of 'right-siding' a contract to protect vulnerable partnership assets. A guiding principle is that you want opening lead coming into rather than through the strong hand-the basic idea behind transfer bids. (Jacoby estimated his transfers were worth a trick every fourth time it was used-he may have underestimated it.) There's always a 'However...' Consider strong hands opened an artificial 2♣. The first system response you learn is 2♦ 'waiting or negative' with any suit response as 2 of the top three honors and a five card suit. This minimizes the chance the weak hand will play the contract. The 2NT response is usually given the value of 8-10 HCP **with scattered values**. Sometimes it's right for the strong hand to go down to protect 'soft' values and tenaces in the weak hand on opening lead. Let's take a look at other response systems to strong 2♣-**Steps showing High card points (2♦ 0-3, 2♥ 4-6 etc)**. This is like programming in Cobol-mostly useless. This maximizes the chance the wrong hand goes down for no corresponding advantage. **Immediate 2♥ double negative** (or just no ace or King) with 2♦ showing a control card(s) (A or K) and 2NT showing hearts. Workable but no improvement on your basic system. **Step responses showing key controls** (A=2 controls K=1 control-2♦ no control 2♥-1, 2♠-2, 2NT-3 kings, 3♣ an ace and a king, 3♦-4..) Usually it's a lot more important to know controls than the gross point count. If you hold ♠AQxxxx ♥AQJ ♦Kxx ♣A would you rather hear '2NT (scattered values) or 2♠ (6-9 HCP) or 2♦ (I have at least one control) Or would you like a nice crisp 2NT (I hold three Kings)? An immediate clarification of the key card situation. In an interview after winning his last North American Championship (six session event) at age 88, Commodore Waldemar Von Zedwitz commented "I feel I am still learning." So should we all. Good luck.

"There is a fine line between hobby and mental illness." Dave Barry *16 things it took me more than 50 years to learn.*

May 2009

Columbia Bridge Club

Done	Priority	Description	Due Date
<input type="checkbox"/>		5/2 Birthday Party! Club Champ	
<input type="checkbox"/>		5/7 Team Game-Club Champ	
<input type="checkbox"/>		5/11 6:30 annual meeting	
<input type="checkbox"/>		5/13 ACBL-wide Fund Game!!	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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