

TRICKS AND TREATS

For Members of the Columbia Duplicate Bridge Club
(Calendar On-line at columbia.bridge-club.org)

Our Birthday party for August was hosted by **Fran Jenkins, Ellie Hack and Rosa Shaw and Madalyn Dybvik**. I knew those cakes were great even if I couldn't have a piece. Thank goodness we had enough deviled eggs.

N/S	North American Pairs Qualifying 10 tables		E/W
1) Pat and Bob Webb	139.0	Brian Lipscomb/Ellen Oliver	142.5
2) Butch Maybin/Jack Wilkinson	128.0	Patrick Lauterbach/Ken Fasching	123.0
3) Ellie Hack/Fran Jenkins	118.5	Marj Edens/Al Kirkland	113.0
4) Jay Shahani/Sue Harrington	110.0	Luanne Edwards/Annie Hawkins	111.5

Our condolences go out to Gwen Beckman on the loss, after a long illness, of Gene, her husband of 61 years. "But if this cup cannot pass from Me, Thy Will be done."

Congratulations Sectional Master-**Jim Bass** Regional Master-**Sheryl Rhoden**

Our Palmetto Sectional was a huge success. We had a total of 406 tables in ten sessions. At two sessions we had 56 tables in play. Last year our largest session (singular) was 49 tables. What happens next year? Well, I'll be there to find out! (You be there too!) There was a lot of room in that large a Sectional for a lot of success but 3 stand out. The Open Compact KO winners were Jeff Thomas/Fran Lawton/Chuck Kennedy/Harriet Blasetti-victors over a team with about 40,000 master points-10 times what they had. That same 40,000 point team lost to our tournament hosts Lee and Chris Webb in the semifinals of the Open KO teams the next day. Finally, Al Kirkland and George Nichols with Jim Gentry and Diane Cato won the Open Swiss.

Top master point winners from the Columbia Bridge Club at the Palmetto Sectional :

1) Harold Moore	25.21	6) Betsy Stanton	20.04	10) Pat Lauterbach	16.57
2) Hap Neuffer	22.41	7) Joyce Lauterbach	19.06	11) Fran Lawton	11.70
3) Jeff Thomas	21.42	8) Chuck Kennedy	17.87	12) George Nichols	11.69
4/5 Pat and Bob Webb	20.26	9) Mary Townhill	17.42	13) Harriet Blasetti	11.30

Tops in the 299're players was **Francis Robinson** with 8.35 master points.

There will be no club game on Labor Day, Monday, September 5!!

Special treat for the club members this month: The annual Gold Point Instant Match Point game will be held 7:00 PM Wednesday Sept 14. **No supervised play that night!** The entry is still only \$6/person and winner of each section wins a Gold Point as part of their award. Remember: starting time is 7:00 for this Gold point event.

Flyers for the upcoming Charlotte tournaments are available at the directors' desk.

Also available at the directors' table are forms for joining (or renewing) membership at the Senior Center. We're looking for at least 75 of our members to join **through the CBC**. It is important that you get the form and return it to the club game director rather than the front desk of the Senior Center. We want them to know it is us. Questions? See the game director.

Something you should never say at any form of scoring: "I had to take another call because I had no defense." If you've just taken a phantom or gone for 800 against their game (or worse-their 680) or 200-500 against their partial, you're probably lucky there is the width of the card table between you-don't push your luck. Sometimes it's right to defend; believe it or not. It's a partnership game-bid what you have and then quit-give partners a chance to use their judgment.

OK, you've moved from the 0-100 to the Invitational games and you're doing fairly well there. But you have trouble in Open games where you're trying to improve your skills. Well, some lessons just don't take in Limited games because there is no penalty for bad bidding-everyone does it. Advancing players are beset by two conflicting desires: not to be stolen from and not to go down. They also have a tendency to forget it is a partnership game. A couple of illustrations (names not provided because everyone in the field was guilty or could have been if they sat the other direction) You are dealt: ♠ K872 ♥ J7 ♦ A93 ♣ KJ82. You decide to open this dog (vulnerable) 1♣ and your partner replies 1♥. So far so good-but your RHO inserts 2♦. I saw two people at this point bid 2NT. Bad idea-you want to play 2NT across from any 6-count with 4 hearts your partner holds? That's all he's shown so far-you have nothing extra for your opening. After the second time I saw that auction on the board, I went back to BridgeMate and looked-long string of minus 200's and a minus 300 and two minus 110's. The lesson that this bidding doesn't work was lost in the wash with all the average scores for minus 200. Let us draw the curtain of charity over the pair where the holder of this hand bid 2♠ at this juncture. There is no prize for guessing the spot-pass at this point and let your partner make a more informed choice. There are on the other hand players who have such an unreasoning fear of going down that they refuse to make the most descriptive bid available. Try this hand:

♠J65 ♥KQ97 ♦83 ♣ K84. Your partner opens 1♣ and you duly bid 1♥. He rebids 1♠ and your call is, of course 1NT. But wait-there are some who look at that little doubleton diamond and would rather make a 3-card raise of a known 4 card suit than expose themselves to diamond losers in a NT contract. Hey! Your partner still has a bid-give him the best info possible. Oh, well, sometimes you just have to let players stack up bad results until they are willing to change.

The cup races run from June 1 2011 through May 31,2012. As of August 23 standings:

Sol Lourie Open 1) Bob Webb (40.17) 2) Jay Shahani (35.77) 3) Zan Edmunds 35.26
4) Jack Wilkinson (34.57) 5) Hap Neuffer (33.48) 6) Alice Moore (30.69) 7) Pat Webb (29.28)
8) Ken Fasching 29.12 9) Francis Robinson (29.04) 10) Harriet Blasetti 28.32

Henry Mills 0-2000		Coleman Farrell Non-LM		Centurion Cup 0-100	
1) Jay Shahani	35.77	Francis Robinson	29.04	Jerry Love	17.45
2) Zan Edmunds	35.26	Leck Mason	27.33	Mike Stockdale	13.10
3) Jack Wilkinson	34.57	Jack Self	24.16	Mary Ivey	12.10
4) Francis Robinson	29.04	Roberta Case	20.12	Bibs Hurt	11.96
5) Harriet Blasetti	28.32	Arnold Levinson	19.38	Jim Bass	10.47