

TRICKS AND TREATS

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

Our Birthday party for November was hosted by **Anita and Henry Momand**. Cake by **Phil Mixson**. Best in bridge by **Ed Scheiblich and Linda York**. Everyone was still “up” from the great time they had in Charlotte and we were back to something like our usual attendance.

N/S	Club Championship Game 12 tables		E/W
1 Ed Scheiblich/Linda York	135.5	Roni Keisler/George Nichols	121.5
2 Chuck Kennedy/Gwen Beckman	119.0	Hap Neuffer/Alice Moore	120.0
3 Patrick and Joyce Lauterbach	117.5	Harriet Blasetti/Jack Wilkinson	115.5
4 Scott Dunn/Frank Thorne	113.5	Tom Gabriel/Melinda Young	112.0
5 Luanne Edwards/Annie Hawkins	112.5	Jerry Love/Sheryl Rhoden	106.5

Big winners from the CBC at the **Charlotte Regional**:

Joyce Hampton among the leaders in total points won with 129. She won two top-flight KO's.

Perhaps the happiest big winner was **Arnold Levinson**, our club's newest Life Master. He won his final required Gold points playing with **Betsy Stanton**. He made Silver Life Master at the same time.

Other notable performance were turned in by **Henry and Anita Momand** in KO team events with **Lewis and Carolyn Cromer and Bibs Hrut and Roberta Case**.

There were many others-all available by links at the Unit 160, MABC and ACBL.org web pages.

We are now once again looking for party people. If you can host a monthly Birthday party, please sign up on the sheet posted on the club bulletin board. All that is involved is providing a Birthday cake for the party. With one person designated to bring the cake, everyone else can bring different finger foods. We are looking for February through December of 2012.

We're back to 8 teams in the “8 is enough” events. Winners in November 3rd game:

- 1) Francine Moring/Ken Fasching/Zan Edmunds/Jack Self
- 2) Frazer McCrorey/Roy McCrorey/Brent Holcomb/Sallie Blackwell
- 3) Abduhl Ghaffar/Tom Balcerek/Sylvia White/Bernetha Henry

Winners November 10th:

- 1) Joyce Lauterbach/Ken Fasching/Francine Moring/Jack Self
- 2) Jack Wilkinson/Harriet Blasetti/Marianne Murphy/Bernetha Henry
- 3) Bob Webb/Patr Webb/ Tom Gabriel/Susan Mcfadden

Winners in the monthly Individual Game: Harold Moore, Abduhl Ghaffar, Gwen Beckman
Chuck Kennedy, Beronica Whisnant, Sallie Blackwell.

Congratulations to **Lee Webb** who made Silver Life Master at the Charlotte Regional
Moving Up- Jr. Master **Judy Small** Sectional Master **Irene Duheme**

The ACBL-wide Charity game on Monday night November 28.

"Fortunes won or lost on every deal. All you need to score are nerves of steel." That's Elvis Presley in *Viva Las Vegas*. I play with a lot of advancing players and this is advice I wish I had given most of them. Bridge is a partnership game but it takes a while for the implications of this fact to sink in. Example: a few weeks ago I was playing in an event with an Open and a 0-200 section. My hand was S-J H-9-8-6-3 D-A-J-x-x-x C Q-x-x. My Left hand opponent opened 1D, partner bid 1Spade, Right hand Opponent doubled (negative) and I passed. LHO now bid 2 Hearts, Partner bid (slight overbid) 3 Spades and RHO bid 4 Hearts. I of course bid 4 Spades. Every Open table played 4 Spades, every 0-200 table played some number of Hearts. **I was asked by a 0-200 player about this hand afterwards.** "Your partner holds an almost solid 6-card suit plus outside values for her bid. The negative double and 2 Heart bid locate 8 hearts for you and you're looking at 4-so your partner has one-her outside values are all minor suits and have to fit your hand like a glove." Her hand was S-A-K-Q-x-x-x H-10 D-K-Q-x C-K-x-x. Partnership trust first: you have to think about what your partner's bid or defensive play means-then you have to trust that they have what they told you they have. You can't say "I only have 7 points and just one Spade so I can't raise to game." You aren't just playing the 13 cards in your hand, but the whole of the partnership assets.

"It's not fair that we lose a chance to play a board against this pair..." Yes, I hear that and I agree. I've always favored settling the winning and losing by play rather than adjusted scores. The ACBL rule book defines chronic late play as a violation of Ethics and Proprieties subject to Procedural penalties. The good Sisters of Charity BVM drilled into me that making people wait on you was rudeness of the highest order-trying to artificially make yourself important. OK, I'm culturally prejudiced for punctuality-but it is also a rule (Law 90) of this competition. You can help some though. If you know going in that you have only 18 minutes instead of 22, skip the between hand analysis and just play on. Make sure the other pair does also. If it's the last round, it's still only 22 minutes-the other pairs want their results and it is extremely rude to hold up the entire room on your late play. (Ever notice how often it's the 7th place pair one direction facing the eleventh place pair the other way that's the last in?) Last round is certainly when I will pick up that last board for the benefit of everyone else in the room. So remember-It's not the best you can do, it's the best you can do in 7 minutes a board.

December STaC: December 12-17. All games Open except Friday. I am assured the players on Friday afternoon do not want a shot at the big over-all awards and would rather just play for section tops among themselves. (Games must be Open to be eligible for overall A, B and C flight awards) There will be side C-flight only games on Monday night and Friday afternoon.

The Mini-McKenney races in the Unit 160 show that 7 of the 10 top performers in the 500-1000 Bracket come from the Columbia Bridge Club. You don't do that just playing club games. Congratulations to our soon to be Silver Life Masters who are turning in such good Tournament results.

"If I knew for certain that a man was coming to my house with the positive intention of 'doing me good', I should immediately run in the opposite direction." Mark Twain