

TRICKS AND TREATS

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

Our Birthday party for December included the birthday of our oldest member, 100 year old Belle Fields.

N/S	Grassroots Charity 12 1/2 tables	E/W
1) Hap Neuffer/Alice Moore	179.29	Pat and Bob Webb 166.00
2) Rosa Shaw/Brent Holcomb	161.96	Sue Harrington /Sylvia White 160.00
3) Jeff Thomas/Mary Townhill	157.63	Marj Edens/Margaret Hill 154.50
4) Joyce and Patrick Lauterbach	152.21	Fred and Carol Clemenz 146.50
5-6) Linda York/Ed Scheiblich	150.58	Cathy Steinaker/Elaine Wade 145.00

The **ACBL wide Charity** game held Monday November 26. Great hands-accurate bidding-Good defense and judgment in the competitive situations was required to bring it home. Congratulations to our overall winners Marcia Fletcher and Henry Nechemias.

N/S	ACBL-wide Charity 9 ½ tables	E/W
1) Henry Nechemias/Marcia Fletcher	133.31	Hap Neuffer/Alice Moore 131.44
2) Patrick Lauterbach/Greg Garrison	123.62	Mary Townhill/Bruce Kenner 128.00
3) Brent Holcomb/Sallie Blackwell	118.76	Joyce Lauterbach/Harold Moore 117.13
4) Al Kirkland/Roberta Case	113.86	Mirza Baig/Mike Bitonti 115.44

Winners in the December 6 '8 is enough' game:

	Wins	VP's	MP's
1) Tom Gabriel/Susan McFadden/P Lauterbach/C Kennedy	3	49	1.75
2) Brent Holcomb/Sallie Blackwell/Irene Fields/Judy Sellers	3	48	1.31

Winners in the December 13 "8 is enough" game:

1) Mary Townhill/Jeff Thomas/Jack Self/Scott Dunn	3.5	65	1.98
2) Barb Cathey/Barbara Orr/Jeanne and Bob Colton	2	52	1.49
3) Joyce Lauterbach/Ken Fasching/Ed and Sheelagh Young	3	43	1.11

Winners in the December Individual event: Jeff Thomas, Abdul Ghaffar, Harold Moore, Shelby King, Pat Webb, Scott Dunn, Bob Webb, Barbara Cathey.

Our mid-December combination holiday celebration and celebration of Belle's birthday (12/17) on Saturday the 15th was a STaC event that drew 21 tables. Standings by percentages:

N/S	STaC	Section A 10 tables	E/W
1) Ed Scheiblich/Linda York	58.31 %	Francine Moring/Ken Fasching	59.26 %
2) Pat and Bob Webb	56.08	Diane Ellis Carolyn Swartout	58.86
3) Jim and Ginny Chianelli	54.81	Mary Hayden/Margarita Staugler	54.57
N/S	STaC	Section B 11 tables	E/W
1) Hap Neuffer/Lukasz Lebioda	66.55%	Patrick and Joyce Lauterbach	61.14 %
2) Cyntia Cone/Al Kirkland	63.17	Bill Charwood/Jay Shahani	60.82
3) Tom Gabriel/Susan McFadden	56.94	Carol and Fred Clemenz	55.58

There are several players in our club who bid a Take Out Double this way and I have never heard any one of them alerted. I also have fallen into the "trap" that their double means support for the other three suits. This quote comes from *Advanced Bridge Bidding for the 21st Century* by Max Hardy, pg. 191:

"Remember, some inexperienced bidders believe that a takeout double shows thirteen points, regardless of distribution. It is not truly a double for takeout. It is just a double that shows values. Most bidders of this ilk fail to mark their convention cards properly and fail to alert. They have the right to bid this way if they wish, but their non-standard approach must be alerted." (my Underlines).

Last month I mentioned "awkward discards" and a couple of people who have no carding agreements on defense asked me what I meant. If you play Standard, odd/even, Laventhal, upside down or anything more sophisticated than "I don't think I need this card so I'll play it on this trick" system: you might not have been dealt the card you need for the signal you want to send. For instance: Standard signals (high encourages, low discourages) Partner leads Queen and you have the K-3-2. That 3 doesn't look very encouraging. Or worse: Partner leads the King (presumably from K-Q-?) and you are supposed to show the positive for ace or Jack by playing high. If declarer holds the A-J-x-x and ducks while you have to choose between the 9-8 Doubleton you were dealt...your partner is about to be ambushed when he continues the suit. That brings up another subject-deception as declarer. Suppose in the previous example you had been dealt the 9-6 (instead of 9-8) and declarer had been dealt the A-J-8-4. Now I know I must have played a true card as declarer sometime in the last 14 years here in Columbia, I just can't remember when. If I held that A-J-8-4, when right hand defender played the 6, I'd play the 8. Make it look like he was trying to show high ("I hold an honor, pard") from J-6-4 or A-6-4 to left hand defender. Don't always throw the lowest one you have because the high one might be better-sometimes it will do the job just fine if you play it early. Just be sure you can afford it.

The CBC year-long points races (June 1-May 31). Leaders unchanged in the four races since last month. In the Open division, Jay now has lost his little daylight. Points won at the club, only, as of December 18:

Sol Lourie Open 1) Jay Shahani (106.27) 2) Patrick Lauterbach 105.18 3) Bob Webb (103.11) 4) Jack Self (93.81) 5) Hap Neuffer (90.59) 6) Al Kirkland 87.15 7) Pat Webb (82.76) 8) Joyce Lauterbach 82.06 9) Alice Moore 77.82 10) Zan Edmunds 69.50 11) Ken 66.94

Henry Mills 0-2000

1) Jay Shahani	106.27
2) Jack Self	93.81
3) Al Kirkland	87.15
4) Zan Edmunds	69.50
5) Jim Chianelli	63.06
6) Mary Townhill	61.83
7) Brent Holcomb	61.41
8) Tom Gabriel	59.66
9) Bill Charwood	58.47
10) Harriet Blasetti	57.82

Coleman Farrell Non-LM

Scott Dunn	49.28
Mary Ann Cross	39.39
Jerry Love	37.39
Judy Sellers	35.78
Bel Cross	34.84
Greg Garrison	33.94
Jim Bass	33.90
Melinda Young	27.39
Leck Mason	27.36
Frances Potter	26.98

Centurion Cup 0-100

Bill Oswald	14.50
Beronica Whisnant	13.34
Mary Helen Woodall	12.12
Bruce Kenner	12.08
Barbara Orr	10.70
Hilary McDonald	10.49
Adele Weathersbee	10.30
Helen Young	9.61
Karen Falkenberry	9.10
Henry Nechemias	8.86