

TRICKS AND TREATS

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

The May Birthday party was one of the Grassroots games. Funds from these games' sanctions go to promote new bridge player education. Thanks to all who participate. Congrats to Phil and Jay on a very tight win!

N/S	7 ½ tables Grassroots pairs	E/W	
1) Phil Mixon/Jay Jacobs	88.83	2) Pat and Bob Webb	86.13
3) Chris and Lee Webb	86.00	4) Carolyn and Lewis Cromer	85.14
5) Al Kirkland/Francis Robinson	82.33	6) Fran Jenkins/Margaret Hill	79.63
7) Ed and Sheelagh Young	79.08		

Last Chance to be on time! Dues are due by May 31-remember, you must be a paid up member to attend the club's summer party in June.

June starts the club qualifying round of the **North American Pairs**. We will have two sessions with a special upgrade sanction for each session for the next three months. We will also have club charity games for each of these three months. Mark your calendars and line up your partners to play these events. The limited games will be expanded slightly to accommodate the "B" and "C" strata that are mandated by ACBL for this event.

We said goodbye to two very long-time members of CBC in May: **Marj Edens**, a very good player and popular partner of many of the top players in the club and **Rosa Shaw**, with whom I played one of the more memorable hands of my bridge career. It was a Tuesday afternoon in a STaC event with mostly the Tuesday afternoon regulars playing. Rosa was in 4 Hearts and I was not paying very close attention as dummy. Rosa revoked-no one said anything. Then the player on my left revoked-no one said anything. Then the player on my right revoked and a few tricks later the hand was over with 4 Hearts making-no one said anything about revokes. I just sat there and marveled. Believe it or not, this situation is covered very simply in the rule book. If both sides revoke, there is no adjustment. Rosa, I hope you draw Barry Crane for the heavenly Over/Under. "May these souls and all the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace and let perpetual light shine upon them."

Winners of the May 7th 8 is enough team Game:

	Wins/Loss/Tie	Victory Pts.
1-2) Pat Webb/ Bob Webb/Sue Hopke/Greg Garrison	3 1 0	54 (1.53 MP)
1-2) Dot Jones/Mary Townhill/Beth McMaster/Jack Self	3 1 0	54 (1.53 MP)

Winners of the May 14th 8 is enough team game:

	Wins/Loss/Tie	Victory Pts.
1) Dot Jones/Beth McMaster/Jack Self/Mary Townhill	3 1 0	59 (1.75 MP)
2) Bob and Pat Webb/Bibs Hurt/Greg Garrison	3 1 0	58 (1.31 MP)

To play well, we have to master the rules-"best practices"- and algorithms of the game. The rules are rules because they generally work well-but not always. (Sometimes it looks to me like people don't realize there are backs on the cards) The more deals you play, the more you realize that context determines whether or not you follow the general principles. Sometimes it's better to do the wrong thing quickly than the right thing after a lot of thought. Anticipate a rather obvious situation coming up on the defense so you can make your correct play in tempo-it has a much better chance of working that way. (example: Partners who play second hand high drive me crazy-opponents who do that are a gift) Sometimes the rules should be broken, but until you play a lot of hands in competition, you do rather better to follow them.

You spend half your time on defense, but what do you talk to your partner about before the game? Bidding conventions, if you talk about what you're playing at all. I just figured out the reason I'm having trouble winning with one of my regular partners is because we are not on the same page with defensive signals. We will get this straightened out before our next session. Successful players just cannot ignore 50% of the game. Talk defense with your partner soonest.

It keeps happening-my partner or I open and defender 1 makes a 2-level overcall with a Queen high suit. We bid a thin game and it comes waltzing home with perhaps two tricks more than we deserve because defender 2 gets off to the wrong lead. It also happens when a lead directing double is made on a broken suit to the Ace or King or a suit headed by Queen-Jack. These are mostly done by players just advanced from the limited games-where such tactics made them a terror. In an Open game I guarantee you, they may work occasionally, but these tactics are big time losers.

The Cup races run from June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2015. Only points won at the CBC are included in the race totals. Good close race between Dot and Bel in the Coleman. It looks like several players cashed in big-time on the Grassroots games. Classification of players is by point total as of June 1, 2014. Standings are as of May 18-two weeks to go.

Centurion Cup (0-100 MP) 1) Dot Jones 80.68 2) Kathy Kimmerling 54.92 3) Sallie McCardle 52.84 4) Shelby King 52.47 5) Janet Sheridan 50.49 6) Beth McMaster 48.96 7) Hillary McDonald 36.07 8) Burton Case 34.37 9) Beth Donelan 32.57 10) Mary Ann Madden 31.22

Sol Lourie Unlimited	Henry Mills 0-2000	Coleman Farrell Non Life Master
1) Patrick Lauterbach 240.85	Jay Shahani 214.83	Dot Jones 80.68
2) Pat Webb 220.11	Jack Self 172.98	Bel Cross 78.65
3) Jay Shahani 214.83	Mary Townhill 164.25	Lauren Alexander 65.96
4) Joyce Lauterbach 205.57	Frances Lawton 120.31	Sue Hopke 60.48
5) Hap Neuffer 202.96	Tom Gabriel 108.57	Jerry Love 60.47
6) Bob Webb 195.04	Jack Wilkinson 102.69	Kathy Kimmerling 54.92
7) Jack Self 172.98	Zan Edmunds 98.79	Sally McCardle 52.84
8) Alice Moore 169.46	Scott Dunn 97.73	Shelby King 52.47
9) Mary Townhill 164.25	Jim Chianlli 95.02	Janet Sheridan 50.49
10) Brent Holcomb 129.94	Caolyn Cromer 89.06	Helen Young 49.16

"Fling not the arrow which may be returned against you" Nomadic proverb (Sid Meyers Civilization 4)