

CLUB NEWS

FOR THE DUPLICATE PLAYERS OF THE VILLAGES

JUNE, 2013

NEWS CLIPS:

Melanie and Ray Harris will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on August 31. They are celebrating by going to Hawaii on May 10 for a 12-day vacation, then sailing to Vancouver and flying back to Orlando. It sounds like a fantastic 50th celebration!

Bruce Thiher, our world traveler, flew to Columbia, South America on May 5. I received an email from him while he was visiting in Bogota, which is published in this Club News. Bruce is also traveling to Las Vegas in June.

Donna Ziemann is scheduled for back surgery at the Leesburg Hospital. She has a slipped disc pressing on other nerves. Rehab will follow surgery. Please keep her in your prayers.

Our Club has experienced great sadness the last few months. **Chuck Deal** and **Junice Marchand** both passed away on April 11. **Joe Barna** died unexpectedly on March 31. Our thoughts and prayers are with the remaining members of their families.

Marilyn Fulton has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Marilyn started chemo on May 9. We hope and pray for a complete recovery for her.

The Daily Sun featured an article on April 7 about **Mauri and Buck Buchanan** and their experiences teaching bridge on cruise ships. They have worked on approximately 20 cruises in the past several years. They have a passion for travel and bridge. It's a great way for them to see the world and teach a game they love playing.

The Daily Sun featured an article on April 29 about The Villages Duplicate Bridge Club's mentoring program, started by **Jon Williams**. Thanks to our mentors and novices, the program is very successful. The goal is to bring the novices, who already have bridge experience, up to the level of competitive bridge.

NEWS CLIPS: (continued)



The **Bookes** and the **Poitingers** enjoyed a fantastic Alaskan cruise on Regent Seven Seas Navigator. Besides visiting many areas of Alaska, the highlight was being part of the bridge program hosted by **Larry Cohen**. Sea days were filled with excellent lessons including lectures and playing lessons, and duplicate games were held in the afternoons. **Larry** even offered either lessons or duplicate games on port days. In our opinion, there is no greater bridge teacher than **Larry Cohen**. We suggest you go to his website to receive his bridge columns and to learn about his cruise programs. His website is: www.larryco.com.

The air-conditioning is broken at Mulberry. Wednesday's open game will join the 399er game in a two-section game at Lake Miona until Mulberry is repaired. The Board will be making a decision concerning the Thursday afternoon game at Mulberry. No other regional recreation center is available at this time.

"The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong." (Murphy's Law)

THE VILLAGES FIRST SECTIONAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT: JUNE 14-16 (submitted by Alex Boone)

We are getting down to the final preparations for our upcoming sectional. It will be the first time we have been able to show the bridge world what The Villages is all about and we'd like to have a big success.

One problem we have: It's our first and we have no idea what the turnout will be. We feel we have our committees under control but we do not know how much help will be needed and in what capacity. It would be helpful if those of you who would like to, check during the tournament to see if there is anything you can do to assist. We will need all the help we can get, especially if there is a large turnout.

The Villages has been very supportive and we really appreciate it.

See you there!

Alex

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SPECIAL GAMES SCHEDULE

There has been some changes to the Special Games Schedule, so please refer to our website for those changes. The significant changes have been rescheduling of the NAP qualifier from June 14 to June 7, and also the changes to the Swiss team schedule.

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EMAIL FROM BRUCE:

Here I am in Bogota where they are having a downpour this morning but it just means going to the store to get a big umbrella.

I feel really rich here; went to the ATM and got 500,000 Columbian Pesos for \$277. Got 5.....100,000 peso notes...LOL. The years of political unrest here have taken its toll on the money.

Flying over the country is getting to watch a spectacularly beautiful country. Today even in the rain I am going to Montserrat which is the highest point overlooking Bogota and where one of the big Catholic churches is located.

I have to be real careful to take things slowly here since the altitude is 7200 feet and if I go very fast I get very dizzy. The locals say it is from not getting enough oxygen to the brain.

I have one for medicare and our insurance. Evidently my Flomax pills in my luggage were interesting to someone else because I arrived without them. They are not prescription down here so I went to the Pharmacia to get some more and 30 pills cost \$65.....LOL. I like the \$5 version at Walgreens better with the drug insurance.

Bogota is a huge city....8 million...in a country of 40 million. Lots of cars....the taxis are little 4 seater 4 cylinder Hyundais but surprisingly roomy on the inside. And it costs about \$3 to go wherever you want in the immediate vicinity. I give them a 20,000 peso note and I get 15,000 back. What a hoot! The peso is at 1840 to one dollar.

That's the late news from here thus far.....

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NEW RESIDENT MEMBERS SINCE MARCH, 2013

Susan Bandi, Patricia Dullea, Marguerite Hassett, Sally Jackson, Mickey Martin, Marge McIntyre, Mary Nadeau, Paul Pellin, Don Roememann, Diane Wheeler

A big **WELCOME** to our new Club members!

299er News (Club Members with Fewer than 300 Masterpoints)

Pat Holmes was listed in the April ACBL Bridge Bulletin as one of the top 25 in the Ace of Clubs contest, for those who started 2012 with 5 – 20 masterpoints. Pat earned 59 masterpoints in 2012 to make the top 25 nationally.

Dave Michaelson, who graduated from the 299ers when he hit 300 masterpoints about six months ago, got the final silver points he needed in Ocala, and is now a Life Master.

Ocala Tournament

In the ACBL Sectional Tournament in Ocala in April, a record number of Villages 299ers participated, and 42 of them won masterpoints. This overview does not list all of them, and is also limited to those 299ers who played with other Villages 299ers.

Mary Van Steelandt and Sally Jepsen were the big winners, earning 8.84 and 7.97 masterpoints respectively. They played together in 299er pairs in two games (over 61% in each), and Mary played with Evelyn Bennett for an overall first of almost 68% in another 299er pairs event. Mary and Sally teamed with Sandy Baker and Sandy Goodwin for first place in the “C” stratum of Swiss Teams.

Other first place pairs were Maryann de Roche and Bob Tolpa, whose 65% game was first overall in one of the 299er pairs events; Carlyn Bryan and Carol Richardson, who twice finished first in their stratum in 299er events; Marilyn Hubbard and Nancy Speedy, whose 60% game earned them a first in “B” in a 299er pairs event; and Sandy Baker and Sandy Goodwin, who finished first overall with a 61% game in the final 299er pairs event. Janet Dunn and John Dunn finished first in “B” in that event.

Among those at Ocala attending their first tournament, Betty Einstman and Pat DeArmond finished first in the “C” category in their 299er pairs game. Maggie Finch (who entered with 7 masterpoints), B J Chiota, and Carol Payette were among the other 299ers playing in their first tournament who had good games and earned masterpoints.

St. Petersburg Special Sectional April 28 – NLM Swiss Teams

Mike Peleck, Janet Gawenda, Pat Holmes, and Colleen Clark played in a special sectional for Non-Life Masters in St. Petersburg in April, and finished first not only in their “C” stratum but also in “B”, earning 2.93 MP each.

- Submitted by David Haskell

“Count your winners and count your losers. If the total doesn’t come to 13, count your cards.” (Sheinwold)
“The difference between genius and stupidity at the bridge table is that genius has its limits.” Author unknown

President's Report

Our main topic at the last two Board meetings has been preparations for the upcoming sectional tournament, June 14 – 16 at La Hacienda Recreation Center. Thanks to Alex Boone and all of the club members who have been working to make this exciting, inaugural event a huge success.

The Board has chartered a committee to develop an education program for the club that will cover the diverse interests, levels of experience, and learning styles of members and prospective members of the club. The educational opportunities will offer a range of formats, from short workshops to multisession discussions while operating within the guidelines that the Villages Recreation Department sets for club activities. Heather Shane chairs the committee. The committee members are: Buck Buchanan, George Clark, Julie Clark, and Dean Robinson. We expect that the educational program will mesh very well with the Mentor/Novice program that provides reinforcing experiences in live play. Expect to hear more about their plans in the coming months.

Looking forward, the Board investigate way to reinvigorate the Sunday Swiss team games. The Eight is Enough format for the games has continued to be a success, but attendance in the open games has fallen, especially in the off-season.

During later June and July we will make a concerted effort to update the email addresses in the club data base. When you have a moment, please check your email address on the directory. Please email any corrections to Paul Matheson. The Board will be creating a “push” email list that will be used to quickly notify members of changes to game locations, scheduled times, game cancellations, or any other urgent news about the game schedule.

At the request of ACBL District 9, we explored the potential for the ACBL Unit to host a regional tournament in the Villages. These tournaments are larger and longer than a sectional tournament. After discussing the pros (like many visitors coming to the Villages during the off-season) and the cons, the Villages Recreation Department management decided to decline the opportunity. Their decision was driven by the adverse impact on the Villages community at-large from making a major recreational facility unavailable for any other activities for a full week. We were disappointed in the decision, but can understand the Villages reasoning.

Mike Lotti

70% GAMES FOR 2013

Jan. 8 Larry Evans & Peggy Shvetts 71.63	April 12 Arlene McIntosh & Jane Helm 72.93
Jan. 11 Joe Sacco & Gladys Mikel 72.37	April 13 Gladys Mikel & Colleen Treanor 72.92
March 9 Nancy Detweiler & Joe Sacco 74.36	April 24 Marilyn O'Donnell & Gladys Mikel 70.02
March 13 Gladys Mikel & Colleen Treanor 70.67	May 17 Joe Sacco & Don Baker 70.21

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Howard Shenken never published a hand in a Truscott column. They were not on such good terms. Ditto with Stayman and Goren. In the Goren columns, a 2C response to 1NT was never referred to as Stayman. It was always “the two club convention”. (from www.kantarbridge.com/humor.htm)

THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Paul Matheson

Rule 16 deals with a player's responsibility for dealing with unauthorized information. Most of us are familiar with the rule as it applies to unauthorized information conveyed by our partner but the rule (Section C) also deals with unauthorized information received from other source. Specifically information "accidentally" received "by overhearing calls, results or remarks" (*italics added*) of others. The directors have repeatedly asked that players not discuss hands or results with others during the game for a good reason. Not only is it disruptive to others but it may also lead to others obtaining unauthorized information which would put them in an ethical dilemma. The rules state that a player obtaining this information should immediately notify the director for some form of rectification. Possible rectifications would be changing the players position so the player with the unauthorized information plays the hand containing the information; redealing the hands if possible; allow the play to continue but allowing the director to make an adjusted score if necessary, or award an artificial adjusted score. So once again please refrain from discussing hands or results during the game.

Rule 31 deals with a bid out of rotation. There are different remedies based on which player was supposed to bid.

If it was RHO's turn to bid, RHO would then make a bid. If RHO then passes the offender must make the same bid and play continues in the normal manner. However if RHO makes a bid other than pass, the offender can make a sufficient bid in the same suit there is no further rectification. However if the offender makes a bid other than in the same suit his partner is barred from any further bidding. There also may be lead restrictions.

If it was the offender's partner or their LHO's turn to bid and LHO had not previously bid, then offender's partner is barred from bidding for the rest of the auction.

Rule 32 deals with a double or redouble out of rotation. An admissible double or redouble may be accepted by the opponent next in the rotation and normal bidding would continue. If the double or redouble is not accepted it is canceled and

a. If it was partner's turn to bid the offender must pass for the rest of the auction. Lead restriction may apply.

b. If it was RHO's turn to bid and RHO passes the offender must repeat the double or redouble and bidding continues. If RHO takes a legal bid the offender can make any legal call but their partner must pass for the rest of the auction. The director retains the right to make an adjusted score if they feel the offending side gained an advantage from the irregular bid.

What happens when a partner doubles his partner's bid or redoubles his partner's double? If offender's LHO bids before rectification the double or redouble and all subsequent calls are canceled and the auction proceeds as if there was no irregularity. If LHO does not call before rectification the double or redouble is canceled and offender must make a legal call. Their partner must pass for the rest of the auction. Lead restrictions and the director retains the right to make an adjusted score if they feel the offending side gained an advantage from the irregular bid.

The Common Game

At the recent Ocala Sectional I got talking to a lady from another club in Florida and she told me all about this web site.

She said that like us, they went over to 'dealt hands' about a year ago and met with a lot of resistance..... Comments like "finesses never work" and "I always get dealt a bad hand" etc etc. were common. She said that after a while, only the "diehards" were against and nearly everyone, certainly all those who admit that they have still much to learn, thought the hand records available to analysis far out weighed any doubts they still had. After all, we all get dealt the same hands and duplicate is all about trying to beat the rest of the room. Otherwise we would all still be playing Kitchen Bridge....

I digress. She told me about 'The Common Game', a web site where they produce the hands available to be played by any club who wishes to join in and after each game both the bridgemate files and the results are uploaded onto their site and then one can go to the site and see all sorts of very useful information and statistics.

I took it to the board, they agreed that it was worth participating. They were most impressed that the total cost to us was only \$0.00 :)

The only small downside is that the directors now have 2 files to email to Paul and myself and I have to spend more time at the computer..... BUT the upside, after just 3 days of results, is looking incredible.

I get an automatic email telling me that the game I participated in is now online. When you go to the site, the first page you see is the home page giving you options to look at the latest game or to go back into archived games, all 299er's have their own games. There are fun things like the leader boards and very interesting Postmortem analysis. If you click on the latest game, it gives the top 20 pairs for North/South and East/West, not only within The Villages, but across all of the clubs who played those hands.

Looking at Thursday 16th of May, out of 389 pairs, our own Joe and Don came in first, Gladys and Jon 4th and George and Mary 20th WOW!! You can click on anyone's name and see what they did on each hand and then if you click on the board number you see the hand record and what everyone else bid. Very interesting.

If you are an ACBL member, then type in your number in the top right hand corner and it takes you to your personal page. Here you get a list of the games you participated in during the month. Who your partner was, the percentage, field pct and rank and the common game pct and rank and of course the master points you earned. Then if you click on the date, you get a board by board analysis, click again on the board number and the hand record comes up and tells you what everyone else bid. In a number of the boards there is also a detailed analysis of what the bidding and play of the hand could have been. You can also get a percentage of what you did when you were playing the hand, on lead or dummy. Also there is a graph showing you how many times you made the contract, went down or scored overtricks..... You can set up your profile and follow your partners ups and downs. OMG what a wonderful game we all play.

After only 3 days, there is still a learning curve for the director's so please be patient with them. Also, the games at Seabreeze, at the moment do not have Bridgemates, so the information is not complete..... as yet. But we will get there.....

The website to go to is thecommongame.com Have fun, **Janet Matthews**

Villager Expelled from 299er Games

From Wire Service Reports

After more than eight years as a 299er, David Haskell finally reached 300 masterpoints in April and is no longer permitted to attend the 299er games. Searching for someone to blame for this misfortune, which will force him to play with the sharks, David singled out his partners.

“I would still be a 299er if it weren’t for my partners, whom I blame for my graduation. Had they not played so well and recovered so nicely from some of my bizarre bids, I could still play in 299er games for another year or two,” David said. Along the way, he has seen some of his partners surpass 300 points and move on to open games – especially Marilyn Graham, whom he met in a non-sanctioned game at Chatham Recreation Center 9 or 10 years ago. They have been bridge partners for six or seven months a year ever since, and according to David, “Marilyn remains the only partner who either understands some of my more unpredictable bids, or who has been learned to hide her astonishment.”

Together, David and Marilyn won two trophies (valued, he says, at about 35 cents each) for finishing first in 299er sessions at the North American Bridge Championships in Orlando in 2010. In retrospect, David now wishes that he had played in more open sessions in tournaments where he might have earned more gold and silver points, and he needs “lots of both colors” to become a Life Master. But at his present rate, David expects to reach Life Master “well before 2025.”

David Haskell provided the impetus for the first 299er game in The Villages by submitting a petition to the Board of Directors in 2008 for a separate 299er game or section. The proposal was adopted and the Monday afternoon 299er game was born.

Drawing on his background as an English teacher and lawyer, a few years ago David began writing an occasional column emailed to 299ers in which he would analyze a particular hand played in the Monday 299er game. Hand records were not available when the email newsletter started, and David would write down the hands of interesting boards after Monday games. Then came photographs of the hands; and with hand records now available, his job has become easier. He emphasizes that he is not an expert, and sends his emails only to those with fewer than 300 masterpoints who sign up for it (currently about 140 players). The typical weekly email focuses on one hand played on Monday, summarizes the results, and provides what he characterizes as a non-expert discussion of bidding and play alternatives. Email recipients who disagree with David’s analysis have not been reluctant to set him straight, and he has been known to issue updates and corrections. He is looking for a volunteer to continue his emails to 299ers.

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A retired English teacher says it is amazing we all learned English!

The bandage was wound around the wound.

The farm was used to produce produce.

The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.

We must polish the Polish furniture.

He could lead if he could get the lead out.

A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.

MILESTONES: 2013 LIFE MASTER ACHIEVEMENTS

Junior Master: Michael Peleck, Nell Hessemer, Joyce Jackson, Sara Valentine

Club Master: Glenn Ryburn, Larry Thomas, Leon Zaczek, Gabriel Basil, Gene Ciccarelli, David Harris, Margaret Millward, Paul Moore, Selena Balick, Elizabeth Borum, Johanna Hazlett, Patricia DeArmond

Sectional Master: Barry Pressman, Raymond Artura, Pat Ciccarelli, Carol Payette, Carlyn Bryan, Maryann de Roche

Regional Master: Linda Eicher, Sandra Ainsworth, Colleen Clark

NABC Master: Jane Dulieu, Karen Linder, Mike Lotti, Doug Worthington, Mary Gavaghan, Kathy McKay, Carol Meier

Life Master: Laura Testroet, David Michaelson

Bronze Life Master: Carol Alspach

Silver Life Master: Paul Hassett, Kay Jones, Ed Buchanan, Paul Kacen

THE VILLAGES MASTERPOINT TOP 20 LEADERS FOR 2013

0-300

Mary VanSteelandt 24.39
Pat Holmes 24.37
David Haskell 20.06
Michael Lotti 18.02
Beverly Magnuson 17.22
Evelyn Bennett 16.85
Sandy Baker 16.09
Kathy Brick 13.88
Mike Peleck 13.76
Raymond Artura 13.48
Dave Harris 13.12
Sandra Goodwin 12.81
Dave Winer 12.20
Gigi Letendre 12.15
Sally Jepsen 12.06
Paul Moore 11.98
Janet Dunn 11.77
John Dunn 11.77
Sandy Ainsworth 11.42
Carol Payette 11.17

300-1000

George Murray 34.74
Mary Ann Kelly 24.00
Chet Eicher 22.88
Mary Rowe 20.57
David Michaelson 18.85
Nancy Detweiler 18.52
Henry Hood 15.75
Cynthia Kluemper 15.72
Caroline Davies 14.86
Janet Matthews 14.48
Louis Fischer 13.43
Lynne Fisher 13.39
Carol Alspach 13.08
Bonnie Overson 13.05
Gisela Knock 13.03
Sandi McNaughton 11.92
Karen Linder 11.49
Laura Lee Testroet 11.34
Tom Bush 10.75
Marilyn Graham 10.58

1000+

Joe Sacco 62.81
Gladys Mikel 45.53
Jon Williams 36.42
Ed Schusler 36.39
Ginny Crump 35.75
Don Baker 34.39
Buck Buchanan 34.27
Lucy Tillman 30.63
Marilyn Williams 28.61
Charlie Showalter 27.99
Ruth Srulevitch 27.28
Bill Ziemann 25.28
Sandy Booke 24.20
Bev Yankee 23.88
Alex Booke 23.55
Donna Ziemann 22.46
Marilyn O'Donnell 22.19
Anne Gust 22.13
Andy Sloan 21.66
Bruce Thiher 21.53

The Board has voted approval for **Tom Bush** to establish a new website for our Club. The name is BridgeWebs.com. It will take about a one-month learning curve before we see Bridgescore.com replaced.

A beautiful heart-warming story was featured in The Daily Sun on May 26 about **Bonnie Overson** and the cozy terry cloth long robe which belonged to her deceased husband, Pete. Bonnie wore the robe to a water aerobics class and accidentally left it there. She is hoping someone will return it to her. She remembers Pete, wearing the robe, wrapping his arms around her. The robe remains a "comfort" symbol to her. For her sake, we hope it will be returned to her.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

FT. LAUDERDALE REGIONAL April 1-7

Sandra Gebhardt 2.52 Kathy McKay 4.94

NABC GATLINBURG April 15-21

Sandy Booke 7.47, Alex Booke 7.47, David Stentz 7.13, Neil Timm 7.13

OCALA SECTIONAL April 12-14

Joe Sacco 13.62	Don Baker 11.68	Paul Matheson 10.72
Ed Schusler 10.50	Marilyn Graham 10.39	David Haskell 10.39
Charles Showalter 9.82	Mary Van Steelandt 8.84	Michael Lotti 8.71
David Michaelson 8.71	Sally Jepsen 7.97	Jane Helm 7.41
Chet Eicher 7.14	Ruth Srulevitch 7.14	Sandy Baker 5.91
Nancy Detweiler 5.52	Lucy Tillman 5.52	Bob Armstrong 4.97
John Dunn 4.48	Janet Dunn 4.48	Sandy Booke 4.10
Alex Booke 4.10	Heather Shane 3.95	Phyllis Hurst 3.65
Carlyn Bryan 3.43	Donna Ziemann 3.38	Robert Tolpa 3.34
Maryann de Roche 3.34	Marilyn Hubbard 3.09	Mary Ann Kelly 2.84
Bev Yankee 2.80	Judy Ventura 2.80	Evelyn Bennett 2.62
Bettyjane Chiota 2.61	Arlene McIntosh 2.44	Millie Vibbard 2.10
Bess Bailey 2.10	Neil Timm 2.08	Patricia DeArmond 1.98
Betty Einstman 1.98	Mary Rowe 1.75	Kathy Brick 1.75
Henry Hood 1.75	Marc Rissman 1.47	John Kuyper 1.47
Margie Quinto 1.43	Maggie Finch 1.43	Bruce Thiher 1.39
Reno Ivy 1.36	Carol Payette 1.36	Lois Thompson 1.33
Beverly Ludwig 1.33	Karen Oberting 1.11	Dean Robinson 1.11
Michael Peleck 1.04	Sandra Ainsworth .92	Dan Chapin .92
Shirley Agness .90	Rosie Blumenthal .90	Pat Dawson .90
Linda Hall .90	David Hall .90	Barb Hincken .90
Elaine Lacroix .80	Myron Henry .65	Mary Henry .65
Susan Schrand .63	Anne Marie Marino .63	Patricia Holmes .62
Lynne Fisher .61	Jack Fisher .61	Liz Adamcik .54
Cathy Thomas .54	Walter Paulsen .48	Edeline Kalbach .48
Janet Matthews .42	David Stentz .42	Marilyn O'Donnell .35
Linda Eicher .30	Karen Linder .30	

Thanks to David Haskell, he sent me names of 299er players who are not registered under The Villages or Lady Lake areas. They are:

Sandy Goodwin 5.91	Carol Fredericksen 3.43	Nancy Speedy 3.09
Carma Sands 2.61	Mary Jane Garner 1.29	Barbara Fallone 1.29
Beverly Magnuson .62		

ST. PETERSBURG SECTIONAL April 26-28

Patricia Holmes 2.93 Michael Pelek 2.93 Janet Gawenda 2.93 Colleen Clark 2.93

PLEASE REMEMBER TO GIVE ANY NEWS ITEMS TO A NEWS REPORTER: THEY ARE PAT FORD, MARY ANN KELLY, JANET MATTHEWS, HENRY HOOD, DONNA ZIEMANN, DAVID HASKELL, NANCY DEAL. PAT POITINGER, EDITOR