

TRICKS AND TREATS

For Members of the Columbia Duplicate Bridge Club
(Calendar On-line at www.cbcbbridge.com)

Annual membership meeting and election of officers will be held on Monday May 12. There will also be a few changes to the bylaws voted on. For a list of candidates and bylaw changes, check the club boards.

The annual club anniversary party will be Wednesday June 4. **An RSVP** is enclosed. Please be prompt with your reply!! Leave it with the director at any game.

Arnold Levinson popular player and raconteur fell and broke his hip before the Wednesday game April 16. Not sure how soon he's up for visitors (call first) but hope you're back ASAP Arnold.

The April Birthday party had a lucky 13 tables for a Webb/Webb/Webb/Webb sweep. Can you sign up to bring a cake for a Birthday party? Sign up sheet by the Saturday results postings.

<u>N/S</u>	<u>Club Championship 13 tables</u>		<u>E/W</u>
1) Bob and Pat Webb	198.41	Chris and Lee Webb	181.76
2) Katie Langston/Jo Westburry	181.03	Butch Maybin/Bill Fogleman	173.68
3) Jan Harrison/Carolyn Floyd	175.90	Ken Fasching/Brian Lipscomb	170.51
4) Jim Chianelli/Henry Momand	169.24	Joan Osteen/Ellen Oliver	167.85
5) Ellie Hack/Joyce Lauterbach	163.25	Hap Neuffer/Alice Moore	161.38

We now have a few playing tips from Eddie Kantar: 41) **before playing to the first trick, review the bidding and make sure you remember the opening lead.** Sometimes the opening lead is a small spot card and it is important to know exactly how small. If the opening leader later plays another small card in that suit, you really want to know whether it is a higher or lower card than the original lead. You really do. 42) **If one or both of your opponents is a passed hand, assume that player has fewer than 12 HCP. If that player turns up with 10 HCP early on, play the partner for any missing Queen, King or Ace.**

(ed note: "If you paid attention, you'd be worried too!" *Mr. Monk* theme song)

The 12:30 game May 8th will be an ACBL wide International Fund game. It will be an Open game at the club. Game will be stratified, Entry \$7/player.

It's that time again. **Dues are Due!!** You know you want to renew, you're going to renew, so do it now while you think about it instead of running up against the deadline (6/1). Single memberships are \$15 and couples are \$28. Attach the member info on the coupon below.

Name(s) _____ Home # _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Birth Month(s) _____ Web Address _____

Remember high school Algebra? Never going to use it in real life, right? Solving a 2nd power equation has (TWO!) answers? One may be imaginary? I've got to admit I haven't chased down very many x's since 1972...but how about framing a problem? Ohhh yeah. Well, card combination problems are like that-I include one on the CBCbridge.com web page version of this letter each month. Some of the combo's don't come up very often-others more frequently. Watch the good players be happier about making 3 than 4? So they say "Pray for rain"? They played the hand so that if they were down only 1, you were making your game but down 2 means they were right to take the sacrifice (a 2nd order bridge equation if you will) Check out this month's problem (and the archived ones if you missed them). See how you do.

In case you missed it.....Use of a bidding box...A call is regarded as made when a bidding card has been taken out of the box with apparent intent. The player is obliged to make up his mind before he touches ANY bidding card in the box. Hesitation between bids, when touching the bidding cards is liable to penalty as unauthorized information.

A call may be changed without penalty when all three of the following conditions are fulfilled:

- 1) The player has inadvertently taken out the wrong bidding card and...
- 2) The player corrects, or attempts to correct, without pause for thought and...
- 3) The player's partner has not called subsequently.

(ed note: This also covers the situation where you do not immediately recognize that you have pulled the wrong card (e.g. 3S instead of 3NT) and LHO has taken a call in the meantime. But you're going to have little success persuading the director you meant to get 6C instead of Pass)

Up the Ladder: Club Master: **Jay Shahani** Regional Master: **Lib Odom**

Our New Silver Life Master: **Henry Momand!** Special mention at the April party.

Good-bye to Cynthia Cone, player and director. She'll be moving to Athens, Ga. May 7. The Thursday game will be directed by **Chris Webb**.

Well, six weeks to go and only one of the races seems to have been decided-and that one, the closest one, away from the table. Looks like Zan, Patrick and Lil are not coasting in if Jim, Brian and Brent can help it. The McMann race results are still with Mike Bitonti.

Points won at CBC games-Trophy races June 1, 2007 to April 15, 2008

Centurion Cup- 1) Zan Edmunds (53.91) 2) Jim Willrodt (50.13) 3) Lib Odom (42.76)
4) Jay Shahani (21.46) 5) Cynthia Cone (20.87) 6) Sam Robison (20.30) 7) Fay Levinson (18.82)
8) Francis Robinson (17.94) 9) Melinda Young (15.92) 10) Belford Cross (11.49)

Sol Lourie Open		Henry Mills 0-2000		Coleman Farrell NLM	
1) Pat Lauterbach	135.17	Lil Hopkins	94.66	Arnold Levinson	80.65
2) Brian Lipscomb	129.77	Brent Holcomb	86.37	Janice Ripley	79.82
3) Ken Fasching	125.98	Jim Chianelli	81.01	Everett Ness	61.87
4) Bob Webb	101.53	Arnold Levinson	80.65	Sue Harrington	60.97
5) Hap Neuffer	98.07	Janice Ripley	79.82	Karen Coulter	56.06
6) Alice Moore	96.00	Bernetha Henry	74.81	Tom Gabriel	54.97
7) Lil Hopkins	94.66	Henry Momand	73.18	Zan Edmunds	53.91
8) Joyce Lauterbach	92.37	Mary Townhill	72.10	Jim Willrodt	50.13
9) Ellie Hack	90.15	Sylvia White	64.30	Susan McFadden	49.91
10) Marj Edens	87.93	Everett Ness	61.87	Leck Mason	49.06

As promised-from the archives of *Bridge World*- a discussion on how to play suit combinations. The ground rules are: Declarer has sufficient transportation and control to operate and nothing is known about opponents' distribution beyond the probabilities of the original deal. The number of card combinations in the two defenders' hands we are dealing with is a power of 2 equal to the number of cards missing. (if missing one card its two to the first or two combinations, missing two cards it's two squared or four combinations three cards would be two cubed or 8 combinations...)

North South need four tricks:

A -2

Q-10-9-8-7

Remember-you need FOUR tricks. If the suit splits 3-3, all you have to do is pick which side you think the King is on and either run the Queen to the board or play low to the Ace and back to the Queen. So.....what's YOUR play for four tricks? Scroll down for the answer.

Once again the critical combinations are the 4-2 splits. Making your best play for the more likely 'bad' split also covers you for the attendant 3-3 splits. There's no use planning for a 4-2 split with two low (You can't win 4) or a 4-2 split with K-J tight (you can't lose 2 tricks). What about doubleton K-x or J-x? After the 7 to the Ace and the Deuce back with only low cards appearing, the Queen is a stronger play than the 10. (the Queen wins against original J-x with West while the 10 does not gain against an original K-x with West-the original J-x-x-x will still stand up for a trick with East). Among the critical 4-2 splits, that play gains only when either defender started with Jack-low. Running the 10 first wins whenever West started with King-low or Jack-low-it is equally good against 4-2 splits. Leading the *Queen* first picks up not only Jack-low in either hand but also West's King-low. (That is four separate combinations.) So the fact that running the Queen loses to East's singleton King (only one case) is only a small loss in comparison.