The Bridge Buzz



ACBL Unit 431 Newsletter



September 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you have all enjoyed the lovely long hot summer. The next few months will be busy with the Fall Sectional September 8 – 10, the Ace of Spades October 22, the 99'er Rookie Game November 27, and of course, the Unit Christmas Party on December 3.

After many years of volunteering as the Unit 431 Recorder, Ruth Cain has decided to step aside. We thank her for all her hard work and dedication. I am very happy to report the new Unit 431 Recorder is Tony Farr.

If you haven't already done so, check out the new District 19 website at http://www.d19.org/ as well as our own website at http://bridgevictoria.ca/. Both are the result of hard work by our JP Weber.

Wishing everyone good luck at the Victoria Fall Sectional.

Leslie Wood President, Unit 431

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PLAYER PROFILE



Bridge Personality: Agnes Dummer

Agnes Dummer is now 93 years old. She was born in Regina. Her father, a chartered accountant, became Saskatchewan's Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs. Like her father, Agnes loved numbers and obtained a diploma in accounting. She worked in accounting and audit before marrying Tony in 1945.

Agnes and Tony moved to Saskatoon in 1947. Tony became an executive with Federated Cooperatives. While raising her five children, Agnes was very involved with the Catholic Church and the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA). She became the President of both the Catholic Women's League and the YWCA Board of Saskatoon. During the National Convention of the YWCA held in Saskatoon, Agnes' skills were recognized when she was asked to facilitate the successful interactions of a discussion group.

When only two children remained at home, Agnes began taking university classes of whatever interested her. Tony retired only to have Agnes go back to work in accounting. She was the first woman to be hired by a local accounting firm and she stayed with them for eight years.

Both parents played bridge at home and Agnes learned while watching. She and her husband enjoyed social bridge in friends' homes. In 1975, Agnes was persuaded to try duplicate. She began to play duplicate bridge regularly and later earned her Life Master status at Penticton. She and Sheila Macdougall travelled extensively, and of course, played bridge. Together, they even learned German which came in handy on a trip to Berlin.

In 1979, Tony and Agnes moved to Victoria. Unfortunately, in 1995, her husband died. She had a subsequent relationship and the couple enjoyed many bridge games before he died.

Agnes kept fit with swimming, walking and golf. Unfortunately, by the time she reached 89 years, osteoporosis meant that her legs could no longer be trusted. Agnes now lives in Highgate Lodge and enjoys going to plays at the Belfry and the Phoenix Theatre at the university, as well as going to the symphony. She continues to have a keen interest in life and looks forward to outwitting her bridge opponents.

Written by Karen Billett

BIG GAMES

73.84%	Bob Cheeseman and Jon Gage	June 22, VBC
73.81%	Harry Sadd and Nancy Baal	Aug. 10, IBC
73.67%	Ron Smith and Donald Gray	Aug. 30, VBC
73.08%	Brian Fraser and Ewa Zwicky	July 25, IBC
72.76%	Ewa Zwicky and Brian Fraser	Aug. 22, IBC
72.64%	Andrea Miller and Doug Drew	Aug. 4, Capital City
71.68%	Ewa Zwicky and Brian Fraser	Aug. 13, Monterey
71.27%	Rita Beny and Delma Murray	June 7, Monterey
70.83%	Axie Millar and Ernie Tradewell	June 2, IBC
70.49%	Bela Hirczy and Tom Pelton	July 19, Monterey

Congratulations to Brian Fraser – coming home with 23 MP he was the top overall player at the Nanaimo Sectional in August.

ne of the great stories out of the recent Penticton Regional comes from the Sunday Swiss Teams. Alison Campbell played in the B/C/D Swiss with Slava Simice from Comox, Ella Haylock from Nanaimo and Caroline Colliver from Calgary. They won the event with a Victory Point total of 130 out of a possible 140. The day was magical from the very first match. They won all 7 matches, with the least VPs being 16 for them. Their closest competitors finished with 101 VPs. They had already beaten that team in the 3rd round by 18 VPs. Congratulations!!

DUNCAN SAYS

Blackwood or Key Card Blackwood

The vast majority of experts use some form of Key Card Blackwood (KCB), but not until establishing the fit. An immediate 4NT bid over 1 of any suit is used as straight Blackwood, not KCB. The old schedule of responses is used: 5C=0 or 4 aces, 5D=1 ace, 5H=2 aces, 5S=3 aces. After partner opens 1 Spade & we hold x AKQJxxxx KQJ10 x, we need to know how many aces partner has, not key cards. We bid 4NT over 1 Spade, and then bid to the appropriate contract on hearing partner's response. If 4NT were KCB, we wouldn't know whether partner's response included the Spade K in the number of "aces" shown.

On a hand that we want to use RKC (e.g. Qxxx x AKQJx KQJ), we first establish that Spades are agreed, by using Jacoby 2NT or something like making a spade bid that is forcing, then bidding 4NT (KCB).

CLUB CORNER

Capital City



The organizing committee for The Glittery Affair

We had a number of exciting events at CCBC, starting with the Alzheimer's fundraiser, STaC games in which our players did well, and the ACBL wide Intercontinental bridge game, where the overall winners, Vera Gergely and Bob Coburn scored 65.05% and just failed by a fraction to place ACBL wide. But definitely the most exciting event was The Glittery Affair, a charity event held in support of CanAssist, a wonderful organization which runs out of UVic. Please check it out at www.canassist.ca. We had a limit of 18 tables and tickets at \$25 a head sold out in one week. Many ladies wore glitter, which made the atmosphere special. There were 50 door prizes and delicious refreshments from patisseries like Ottavio's, Delish, Ooh La La Cupcakes, Bon Macaron and so on. But what was best about the afternoon was the general good will, good humour and generosity of the participants. The overall winners were Doug Scott and Tom Coward who had a 60.39% game and received an orchid each as a prize. It was all really great fun.

What's coming soon? We plan to hold the Inter-Club Championship Game Sept. 28th and Jane Johnson Club Appreciation games October 12th, 13th and 14th.

Thank you all for supporting CCBC.

Ewa Zwicky

Island Bridge Club

Island Bridge Club has had a busy quarter with the Trump Alzheimer's fundraiser which raised over \$1300 for Alzheimer's research and the North American pair qualifiers. There are some big things happening in the coming months, not the least of which is my marriage to my lovely Justine. I will be taking some time off after the 12th of September and Nicole will be directing in my absence. Due to Justine's health, we will have to delay our honeymoon to Disneyland but we hope to go sometime near Christmas instead.

I'm excited to be hosting my first Erin Berry rookie-master game on Tuesday October 18th with the help of the Unit and the other club managers. The rookie-master game pairs under 50 masterpoint players with more experienced partners; please contact me if you wish to participate. In October, the team game will be a Jane Johnson club appreciation game which awards fractional gold points! I plan on taking part in the Great Western winter STaC which runs from December 5-11. It's been a great year and I hope to see you all in the Fall.

Roy Sadd, Owner

Monterey Bridge Club

Good Afternoon Bridge Players,

Monterey Bridge Club holds two sanctioned games per week with **pre-duplicated** boards, hand records and score summaries. The results are posted online immediately after the game. The play rooms are bright, clean and well ventilated. The club features plenty of parking, handicap ramps, and the



Fern Café restaurant. Tuesday players come early to have lunch before the game. The Club adheres to the Zero Tolerance Policy and the Scent Free Zone Policy.

Mark your calendars, set your goals and book your partners for the upcoming Special Games at the Monterey Bridge Club, 1442 Monterey Avenue:

- Saturday September 10, 12:15pm CLOSED due to Sidney Sectional.
- Saturday September 24, 12:15pm Club Championship, extra points, no extra charge.
- Tuesday October 4, 12:30pm Club Appreciation for Open Pairs, no extra charge.
- Saturday October 8, 12:15pm Club
 Appreciation for Open Pairs, no extra charge.
- Saturday November 12, 12:15pm Club Championship, extra points, no extra charge.
- Saturday December 3, 12:15pm ACBL Club Membership Game, no extra charge.
- Tuesday December 6, 12:30pm District 19 STaC, Silver points, additional \$3.00/pair.
- Saturday December 10, 12:15pm District 19
 STaC, Silver points, additional \$3.00/pair.
- Tuesday December 13, 12:30pm Club Championship, extra points, no extra charge.

Sectional Tournaments at Clubs (STaCs) provide bridge players with the opportunity to win Silver, 81.8% sectional-rated, points at the club.

I would like to thank Roy Sadd and Karen Billett for being so accommodating this summer as I rushed off to be a grandmother in Edmonton. I will be back this Saturday September 3, 2016.

Karen is helping me piece together the History of the Monterey Bridge Club. If you have any input please let Karen or myself know. Thank you.

I can be reached by phone or text at <u>250-884-</u> <u>5414</u> or by email at <u>montereybridgeclub@shaw.ca</u>.

Keep calm and bridge on,

Nicole Dupuis www.bridgewebs.com/monterey

Victoria Bridge Centre



Thank you to everyone who made the Customer Appreciation event on August 13th such a great success! There were complimentary snacks, door prizes, and extra match points available to the players.

Stop by the Victoria Bridge Centre one of these beautiful Fall days and enjoy the convenience of 'Sit Down and Play' pre-duplicated boards, hand records, and the cool comfort of air-conditioning. Then continue your shoulda/coulda post-game analysis at home on our website!

The Fall session of eight Beginner Bridge Lessons with Debbie Wastle starts on Thursday, September 15, at 7:00 p.m. The registration fee of \$95.00 includes a textbook. These lessons are a great introduction to bridge, as well as a basics refresher for players who have been away from the game for some time or want to improve their skills.

For more information, call Debbie at: 250-882-4824 or e-mail her at: debwastle@gmail.com

Owner Bill Wastle and the Club's other knowledgeable directors: Duncan Smith, Debbie Wastle, Merv Adey, Mike Ainsley, and Ele Gibson provide a friendly but competitive atmosphere and insightful lessons before most games. Call ahead (250-382-2913) and leave a message if you need a partner and we'll do our best to ensure that you play!

There are two Non-life Master games for newer players and four challenging open sessions a week, plus a weekly Swiss Team game. As well there are regular special monthly events: the VBC mentor game and the Duncan Smith Team game where you come with a partner and Duncan assigns and balances the

teams. You never know who will be your teammates or which group will win!

Visit our website at http://www.bridgewebs.com/vbc/ for more information about our almost-everyday-of-the-week games, match results, upcoming events, competition statistics, and links to bridge resources. Or call us at: 250-382-2913 and leave a message. The VBC may also be rented for private functions; call to inquire.

Save these dates:

Duncan Team GamesVBC Mentor GameSeptember 17September 25October 29October 16November 19November 13December 10December 18

New Year's Eve Party/Potluck/Game: Saturday, December 31, of course! See you there!

DISTRICT 19 UPDATE

The only news I have since the last issue of the Bridge Buzz is that I have been acclaimed as the District representative for Units 429 and 431 and look forward to serving as your representative for the next 3 years.

The district board's next meeting is at the Whistler Regional.

Chris Cookson, D19 Liaison for Units 429 and 431 chriscookso@shaw.ca

2017 VICTORIA REGIONAL BRIDGE TOURNAMENT

Planning for your Victoria Regional Bridge
Tournament, to be held April 17-23, 2017, is well
underway; your Committee is hard at work to ensure
you have a most excellent experience at our new site:
the Victoria Conference Centre in Beautiful Downtown
Victoria

Your Committee consists of Gail Richardson, Treasurer; Jill Stainforth, Marketing; Gina Curran, Partnership; Margaret Skinner, Hospitality; Alison Campbell, Caddie Master and Dallas Goodchild, Education Program. Thank you to all our sponsors for their most generous contributions. This money will allow us to provide splendid hospitality, with useful and/or edible table gifts, and treats following some evening games.

You can help by volunteering! Volunteers are needed to work at the Hospitality and Partnership Desks; both before and after games. And maybe even consider being a Caddie!

Please stop by the Regional Tournament Desk at the September Fall Sectional for more information and to sign up for volunteer positions. If you miss us, please feel free to call to offer your services.

EDUCATION PROGRAM:

We have some exciting news: under the direction of Dallas Goodchild, our Speakers Corner has evolved into an Educational Program for Novice and Intermediate Bridge Players.

On Monday April 17, 2017, from 1:30pm to 4:00pm, Rita Beny and Nev Hircock will present a *FREE WORKSHOP ON DEFENSE BASICS* for players with fewer than 50 master points. This workshop will consist of lectures, discussions and practice hands. Players are encouraged to come with a partner, however it is not mandatory.

The Speaker Program will take place at 12 noon on Tuesday through Saturday. The program is still under development, but will be a 30 minute talk delivered by an Expert in a quiet area, and with handouts.

We will be sending out promotional information with details of the workshop and the speakers' topics to bridge teachers and bridge clubs.

FUTURE VICTORIA REGIONALS:

We are pleased to let you know that we have booked the Victoria Conference Centre for our next three Regionals: 2019, 2021 and 2023!!

Thank you

Jan Galenza, Chair Victoria Regional Bridge Tournament jangalenza@shaw.ca 250-385-7597

MISCELLANEOUS

Grand National Team Event



Back in March, the local team of Ryley Breiddal, Jordan Tessarolo, Daniel Lyder and Marc Furnémont went to Vancouver and qualified for the 2016 NABC Grand National Team event in Washington (DC) as the "C Flight" (0-500 MP) representatives from District 19.

Unfortunately, Jordan was not able to go Washington, so the remaining trio added Anne Katrichak, a player from Vancouver (only players who participated in the qualifier were eligible to join the team). The NABC was being played at a huge hotel, with over 6,000 players participating in different events.

Each of the 25 ACBL Districts qualifiers played in an eight 7-board matches Swiss on the first day, with the top 16 teams advancing to the knockout stage.

"Our" team had a bit of a rough start, with only three positive things to look at after the first round:

- if you are going to get "blitzed", you should be blitzed by a good team (their California opponents eventually finished 2nd overall)
- things could only get better from there
- > the day was young ...

Our team indeed started playing more solid bridge: they won 2 of the next 3 matches, and were in the middle of the pack in the standings at the dinner break. Ryley & Anne bid and made a Grand Slam that the opposite team didn't find, while Daniel & Marc pushed to a couple of close games that were also missed by the other side. Things were looking up.

In the evening session, the four of them continued to play steadily, with more swings in their favour when Daniel & Marc bid made a couple more aggressive vulnerable games, while Ryley & Anne played solid defense against their opponents. They won 3 of the 4 evening matches (including a very positive win against the eventual 3rd place team from South Carolina), and finished 6th overall with 90 points.

Day 2 was the start of the knockout stages, with 52 boards against the qualifiers from NY. Our team started off slowly again, then gained ground in the 2nd quarter to trail "only" by 52 points at the half.

The 3rd quarter was also very good, and more than half of the deficit had been erased before the final 13 boards. Another solid round and this would be a very positive win.

Unfortunately, things didn't quite go their way in the last 13 boards, and a couple of missed opportunities at the very end allowed the NY team to move on to the final 8.

Overall, it was a wonderful experience, and Daniel, Marc, Ryley and Jordan wish to thank the Unit, the Victoria Clubs and all the players who supported and encouraged them. Better luck next time???

Marc Furnémont

In Memoriam Policy

If you wish to have your name listed in the Bridge Bulletin upon your demise, please ensure your family is aware of the ACBL policy: "Notification of death must come from a family member or from the estate of the deceased. Notification from a non-family member —such as from a club or unit official — is acceptable only with a copy of a published obituary or link to an online obituary. Notifications may be sent by email to lnMemoriam@acbl.org or by phone to 662-253-3157."

Jean Scott



For those who fondly remember the Cheese Crispies Jean Scott provided at the sectionals, here is her recipe.

Ingredients

- 1 pound shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 cups crisp rice cereal
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 dashes Worcestershire sauce
- 1 pinch garlic powder
- freshly ground black pepper

Directions

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- In a large bowl, combine cheese, flour, crispy rice cereal, salt, Worcestershire sauce, garlic powder, and black pepper. Mix well and form small balls out of the dough. Flatten each ball of dough with your fingertips until the dough is very thin and arrange the discs on a cookie sheet.

Bake for 12 minutes; or until the Cheese Crispies are golden and slightly brown

Panel Question

Four-suit transfers are a method of transferring into any suit after partner opens 1NT and is an extension of the use of Jacoby transfers allowing transfers to minor suits.

The 2 (transfer to 3C) and 2NT (transfer to 3D) bids are used on the following types of hands:

- A weak hand with a 6+ card minor lacking interest in game. The purpose is to let the strong hand (opener) play the contract and conceal high cards from the defenders.
- A strong hand with a 5+ card minor with interest in slam.

As always, it is important for both partners to learn the entire convention. Details can be found at http://www.bridgebum.com/four_suit_transfers.php

The question to the panel was: "Do you recommend playing Four-Suit Transfers? Please explain why you answered yes or no."

Merv Adey

I do recommend four suit transfers because they are "relatively" simple, but there's one extension involved....

We need a method that gets all responder's possible suits into the auction, and which handles a: drop dead, b: invitational to game, and c: forcing to game or beyond hands.

Most of us get how to do the above with majors. We aren't so efficient with minors. Here's how the minor transfers help: we add a step in which opener says

1N-2S * (clubs)

2N*. Opener 2N says he isn't thrilled with clubs. This may help responder decide whether to continue to game /slam, or sign off. Responder is still captain

1N-2S*

3C*. Opener likes responder's suit and is ready to cooperate if responder has higher ambitions.

Likewise

1N-2N*(diamonds)

3C* Not so happy

1N-2N*

3D*. We have a good fit and opener likes his potential.

You can reverse the meaning of the 'in-between' step, making it the super accept if you wish. Either way, by the time you get as far in the auction of 3 of responder's six card minor, you have some idea how well the hands fit, and responder is well placed.

All these actions require an alert, and prior discussion!

Karen Billett

I enjoy playing forcing Stayman instead of transfers (2 clubs is non-forcing Stayman and I may not have a four-card major; 2 diamonds indicates we are going to at least game). I am very much in the minority in this view. I find it useful to be able to tell partner that we are going to game and then we can exchange information on distribution to find our best spot. This is especially helpful to find minor suit slams.

If I am playing non-forcing Stayman, I like to play four-suit transfers. This approach provides the flexibility to find minor suit stoppers/tricks for notrump and minor suit games or slams. Without 2 spades and 2 notrump being available to talk to partner about a minor suit, one is always guessing. I don't need to retain a natural 2 notrump invitational bid as I can open 2 clubs and rebid 2 notrump.

Delma Murray

Yes, I recommend four suit transfers as they right side the contract.

Duncan Smith

I like 4 way transfers because it is easy to show 1 suited minors, either signoff, invitational, or forcing.

Debbie Wastle

I play 4-way transfers with some partners. It's good, but it's another thing to remember. There is more than one way to show the super-accept, for example, and different partners like different responses so then you have to remember which is which and whether you play it at all with partner-dejour. With a weak hand you can play 3C/3D; with an invitational hand you can play 3C/3D without a super-accept or 3N or higher with a super-accept; with a strong hand you can explore for slam at a low level and with any strength the NT opener will more often declare. Lots of good reasons to play it. BTW: 2S and 2N are ALERTABLE. You do not announce TRANSFER, you simply say 'ALERT' and explain when asked.

Ewa Zwicky

I just love 4 suit transfers because it's a convention that allows both partners to cooperate in finding the best spot to play the hand. Bridge is about communication, so when I have a 6 or 7 card suit minor and maybe 8 or even as little as 7 HPC (high card points), I do not have to sell out for 3 of a minor because my partner is able to tell me if he has a fit with me or not. If there is a fit, then tricks are more important than HCPs. Suppose I hold KJ10854 in a minor suit as well as maybe an outside K, I can't in good conscience raise partner to 3NT. But, if I transfer to that suit and partner tells me that he has 3 to an honour in the suit, then it looks very good for 3NT. I'm giving partner 5 or 6 tricks and he should be able to take care of 3 or 4 more. If, however, partner denies a fit, then we play safe in 3 of that suit and nothing has been lost.

In addition, when we use 4 suit transfers we free up the 3C or 3D bid over 1NT for more meaningful hand descriptions. This is a convention that's easy to learn and to use, so if you don't already have it on your card, I'd recommend you look into it.

Benefits of Bridge



We are always being told how playing bridge keeps our minds active and boosts the immune system while also improving our social lives. One couple who met at the bridge table found it did much more. Congratulations to Danielle Goulet and John Billett who were married on June 21st. Congratulations!

UNIT 431

Ace of Spades Tournament!

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 22. If you have fewer than 200 master points, this is the tournament for you!

Time: 9:00 a.m. Complimentary coffee, tea and

muffins will be served while you purchase your entries for the morning Pairs Game

(start time of 9:30)

Lunch break (bring your own lunch)

1 p.m. Swiss Team (four players) entries

on sale (game start time of 1:30)

Place: St. Aidan's Church 3703 St. Aidan's St,

Victoria, BC

(junction of Cedar Hill Cross Road &

Richmond Road)

Come with a partner for the morning game and a team of four for the afternoon game. If you need a partner or a team, please contact the Tournament Chair by phone or e-mail (see below). It may be possible to find you a team on the morning of the event.

Silver master points are awarded for strat winners of both the Pairs game and Swiss team sessions. The strats tend to be grouped 0 to 20 MPs, 20 to 100 MPs, and 100 to 200 MPs; although these may be adjusted to balance the game.

This is a wonderful opportunity to play in a friendly, relaxed tournament format with your bridge peers.

Peggy Pepper, Tournament Chair 250-727-6228 pegpepper@shaw.ca For more information check the Unit website www.bridgevictoria.ca

99'er Rookie Game

Unit 431 is once again hosting a special game for those players with fewer than 100 masterpoints. Come with or without a partner to the Victoria Bridge Centre on Sunday, November 27th at 1:00. This is always a fun and relaxed afternoon of bridge for newer players.

If you need more information or need a partner, call Gloria Dorrance at 250-595-0534 or email gloriador@telus.net

Christmas Party



We are pleased to announce the Unit 431 Christmas party, December 3 at the Monterey Centre, will be further subsidized to ensure the tickets remain at \$30 each. Watch for an announcement at your favourite club next month for ticket availability.

Unit 431 Recorder



Hello to all, my name is Tony Farr and I am the Recorder for ACBL Unit 431. Explaining the role of the Recorder is my goal:

The Recorder role is to process concerns from ACBL members that occur at unit events. There is a form called a Player Memo that can be filled out if needed available on the ACBL website at http://web2.acbl.org/recorder/pmemo.pdf or contact me for a copy.

Behaviour issues that arise at clubs belong to the club directors/owners to sort out unless they are unit sponsored events, and then concerns should be directed to me. Ethical issues that arise at clubs can involve the Recorder when players are ACBL members.

I can certainly be involved in incidents that occur at clubs to speak to players and make recommendations to owners/directors as suitable.

I can be reached at tonyfarr@shaw.ca

Tony Farr, Unit 431 Recorder

UPCOMING EVENTS 2016

Victoria Fall Sectional, Mary Winspear Centre	
Unit 431 Mentor Game, Victoria Bridge Centre	
Seaside Regional	
Unit 431 Mentor Game, Victoria Bridge Centre	
Ace of Spades, St. Aidan's Church	
Courtenay Sectional	
Unit 431 Mentor Game, Victoria Bridge Centre	
Vancouver Regional at Whistler	
99'er Rookie Game, Victoria Bridge Centre	

For anyone interested in looking further ahead, the complete listing of events for Victoria and vicinity is on the Unit http://bridgevictoria.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/2016-Bridge-Events-Calendar.png

Unit 431 Christmas party, Monterey Centre

Dec 3