



Marin Unit 508



DOUBLE DUMMY

DECEMBER 2006 - JANUARY 2007



Message from the President

By Richard Goldberg

Another year of Bridge is coming to an end. For our unit, this means its time for the Holiday Unit Charity Game and Party. The date is December 3 and this year the board has voted to give our contributions to Hospice of Marin. Many thanks to Jane Frost and Chris Decker for volunteering to be in charge of the luncheon party. Please offer them your help. It's everyone's party.

If you ever get a chance to play duplicate bridge when you travel internationally—do it. On my recent trip to London, (continued on back page)

WEBSITE WOES

BY LAURA FRASER

When websites are designed and registered there is a fee which gets paid; this fee guarantees that no one else can use the registered name. The registration, like an insurance policy, has a life span. If the time runs out another fee must be paid, or the domain name (the name of website) can be snatched up by another person to use. On the surface this sounds very simple; however, in the computer world nothing is simple. There is no magic – only people that make the magic happen.

To register a domain a fee is paid, and this fee guarantees the sole use of the name as long as the registration is in effect. In the case of the MarinBridge website the fees were paid for a term of several years. There is no automatic billing, there is no automatic update. Logic tells us that when the term is about to expire, the holder of the registration should be notified. Computers are very logical in how they work; however, companies that sell registrations are run by people, and herein lies the problem. No one in the Unit was notified that the registration was about to expire. (continued on back page)

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 3 - Holiday Party

December 17 - Unit Pairs

Jan 1 to 7 - Monterey Regional

Jan 13 & 14 - San Francisco Sectional

January 21 - Unit Pairs

Jan 27 & 28 - Pleasanton Sectional

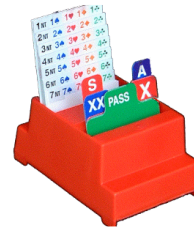
15 TO 18 NO TRUMP?

Unit members Bill Kazee and Bram Dresden use a No Trump range of 15 to 18 points, and then use Extended Stayman and Gap Bids in the subsequent auction.

In this system, responder bids as follows: With a 5 card major, responder transfers to that major. With invitational values but no 5 card major, responder bids 2 clubs – Extended Stayman. (This should be alerted because it does not necessarily show a four-card major.)

Opener's rebids are:

Bid	Holding	Points
2 Diamonds	4 cards in each major	15-16
2 Hearts	4 card heart suit	15-16
2 Spades	4 card spade suit	15-16
2 No Trump	No 4 card major	15-16
3 Clubs	No 4 card major	17-18
3 Diamonds	4 cards in each major	17-18
3 Hearts	4 card heart suit	17-18
3 Spades	4 card spade suit	17-18



All of these bids should be alerted. This system has the advantage of disclosing opener's point count within a 2 point range.

Note: With invitational values, a balanced hand, and no 4 card major, responder bids 2 Clubs, then rebids 2 or 3 No Trump.

As mentioned above, responder transfers with a 5 card major. Responder also transfers with a good 6 card minor (2 of the top 3 honors) but otherwise a weak hand, as follows: 2 Spades transfers to clubs, and a 2 No Trump response is a transfer to diamonds. With a top honor in that minor suit, opener bids 2 No Trump ("Gap Bid"). Without a top honor, opener simply accepts the transfer.

Bill first came across this system in a book he read several years ago. He and Bram have had a lot of success with it, and they recommend it to the rest of us.



BOB LISS - GOOD WILL AMBASSADOR

The ACBL requests Units to nominate a member for consideration as Good Will Ambassador. In addition to being considered for the national award, this nomination is an opportunity for the Unit to show recognition and appreciation to a Unit member who has made significant contributions to the game of bridge. In recognition of the many things he has done for the Unit and the game, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to select Bob Liss as our nominee. Thanks Bob - and congratulations!

Table Talk

Getting to know you...

This issue's Table Talk item is contributed by Beverly Goldberg, who has agreed to do a continuing series on getting to know a little more about our Unit's members.

At the bridge games, often we barely have time to say hello and comment on the weather or a re-



cent movie before the movie is called and we're on to the next table. Do you ever wonder about the background of some of your fellow bridge players and how they came to be here?

ROY HOPPE

Roy's mother worked in the family tailoring business in London, England. One day she caught the eye and heart of an American Navy officer stationed in London. He was from Montana and the first in his family to achieve an education. They fell in love, married and had one child—our Roy Hoppe.

When Roy was five years old, living near Pearl Harbor, he remembers his father playing chess for a quarter. Oh the wonder of it, being paid for playing a game of chess. His first passion was ignited. He became a child chess prodigy, playing wherever the family moved, winning tournaments and earning quite a reputation.

For a time, Roy developed an interest in the violin. He practiced eight hours a day and was passionate about his music. But in 7th grade he was told he would have to miss his weekly chess club to play in a concert. He didn't like that and, after he was forced to play, he gave up the violin forever.

Eventually Roy joined the Air Force as a Russian Language Specialist during the cold war. In his spare time he was the star of their chess team. After four years, he left the Air Force and married his sweetheart Minerva. Two years later they were separated and Roy went into a depression. He realized that chess wasn't helping him and he needed companionship. He had a good friend who was trying to learn chess. The friend was a terrific bridge player and it gave Roy the idea to try a more social game. He threw himself into bridge. That friend was David Bloom.

Roy came to Marin during the Bobby Fischer era. He was asked to teach chess at the College of Marin, where his classes were quickly filled. Beryl Ruebens was interested in learning chess and the two became friends. As the popularity of chess waned, Beryl and Roy eventually started a bridge club.

The rest is history. Roy has been directing and teaching bridge in Marin for 30 years. He is a fierce competitor at the table, but the minute the hand is over he is ready to help you improve your game.

(continued from page 1)

I played at a local club on the outskirts of the city. The afternoon was full of wonderful surprises. The bridge conventions were different but the play was the same. The stratification levels were different and winning 40 master points (European, of course) was a new experience. In the first round, each player wrote his or her hand on a piece of paper which was put in the card holder. In subsequent rounds, players always compared their cards to the paper before bidding began. After the bidding was completed, bidding cards were left on the table until the opening lead was made. The club provided refreshments, but mid-way in the game they took a 45 minute break for "high tea." There were two long tables filled with the "works" (cakes, scones, clotted cream, sandwiches, and cookies), all served on fine china. But the best experience of all was the chance to meet and chat with super-friendly people from another country. Bridge players around the world have an instant bond.

On behalf of the board, I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.

Marin Unit 508
DOUBLE DUMMY
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Members on the Move

NEW MEMBERS: *Kia Hatch, George Duncan, Marvin Kirchner, Nana Kirchner, Stephen Pardys, Barbara Schiff, Martin Terplan, Marilyn Wortzman*

TRANSFERS TO UNIT: *Adrienne Feuer, Edward Kamski, Gloria Perdue, Gloria Welsh, Ronnie Baxter, Jay Shapiro*

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS: *Jane Canning, Kathleen Howard, Gene Pudberry, Claire Young*

NEW CLUB MASTERS: *Lynn Blankfort, Susan Bowser, Shirley Fiorito, Barbara Golden, Myron Kelley, Margaret Rutt*

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS: *Frank Aftowicz, Anthony DeLuca, Nancy DeLuca, Eva Teller, Russell Dodge*

NEW REGIONAL MASTER: *Ginny Boesel*

NEW NABC MASTERS: *Connie Lovette, Alice Saxton, Kenneth Tishgart*

NEW LIFE MASTERS: *Rosalind Bloom, Barbara Cooper, Carl Meyer*

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER: *Sarah Chaffin*

UNIT GAME WINNERS FOR 2006

Life Master - George Economy (35.54 points)

Non-Life Master - Colleen Smith (12.48 points)

WEBSITE WOES (continued from page 1) The "bill" wasn't paid because no bill was sent. There are other fees paid every month for the hosting of the site. I pay those bills automatically by credit card, but those fees have absolutely nothing to do with the registration. As of this moment the bridge site is up and running. Will it go down in the future? Only the computer gods know the answer to that. Will it get updated in a timely manner? I guess only time will tell! Of course, it depends upon how efficient the rest of the world is in letting the webmaster know what needs to be addressed.